INTERNATIONAL Searchlight

Against fascism and racism

May 2010
No 419
£2.50

SQUARING UP

The battle for Barking & Dagenham

2010 ELECTION FOCUS
Pages 4 - 13

HOPE not hate day of action
Pages 17-20

Contents...

Searchlight

The international anti-fascist monthly

May 2010

No 419

Published by
Searchlight Magazine Ltd
PO Box 1576
Ilford IG5 0NG

Telephone
020 7681 8660

Fax
020 7681 8650

email
editor@searchlightmagazine.com

website
www.searchlightmagazine.com

Editor
Nick Lowles

Deputy editor
Sonia Gable

European editor
Graeme Atkinson

Publisher
Gerry Gable

Cover image
Pete Dunwell
www.peterdunwell.co.uk

ISSN 0262-4591

© Searchlight 2010

Campaigning

4 The battle for Barking and Dagenham Nick Lowles looks at the campaign to stop the BNP gaining its biggest potential prize

8 2010 general election Where the BNP is standing

10 Big numbers but prospects look bleak Sonia Gable and Nick Lowles examine the BNP's council election effort

12 New BNP? Same old nazis and thugs David Williams and Simon Cressy review some of the BNP's candidates

17 Record breakers Nick Lowles reports on a massive HOPE not hate day of action in Barking and Dagenham

18 The view from the streets Messages of support from participants in the Barking and Dagenham day of action

20 HOPE not hate in action Reports from campaign events around the country

Investigation

14 Young, nazi and out of a job Sonia Gable reveals the latest problems to hit the BNP going into the election period

16 Dissent derails Stoke BNP election campaign David Williams on the departure of Alby Walker

21 Logan's run Gerry Gable looks at why the BNP's Havering councillor quite the party

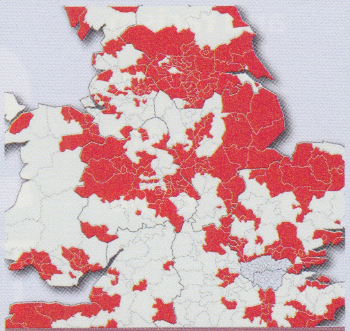
Daily Mirror
HOPE
15 DAYS
FTE 630B

BARKING & DAGENHAM MAY BANK HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

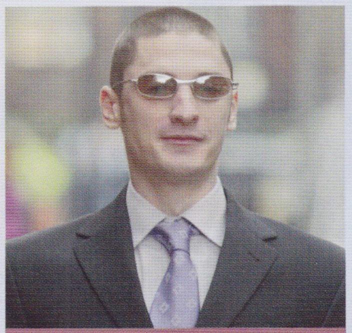
MONDAY 3 MAY

Come campaigning with Eddie Izzard and the HOPE not hate bus

SEE PAGE 7



The BNP is contesting a record 338 constituencies all over Great Britain



A BNP national officer is accused of "scamming" and threatening to kill Nick Griffin

Around 1,000 people delivered HOPE not hate newspapers to voters on 17 April

Pokerface
freedom & truth

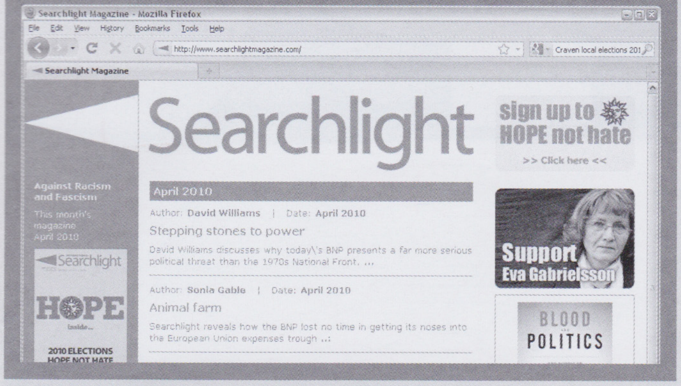
The US Tea Party movement is tainted by racism and antisemitism

Searchlight Magazine online

Visit the *Searchlight* Magazine website to access articles from the latest and previous issues of the magazines.

Search our archive for information on fascism and racism in Britain and internationally. Historical features, interviews and much more.

To find out about fascism past and present visit www.searchlightmagazine.com


Searchlight Magazine - Mozilla Firefox
File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help
http://www.searchlightmagazine.com/
Craven local elections 201
Searchlight Magazine
Searchlight
sign up to HOPE not hate
>> Click here <<
Against Racism and Fascism
This month's magazine April 2010
Searchlight
HOPE inside...
2010 ELECTIONS HOPE NOT HATE
Support Eva Gabrielsson
BLOOD POLITICS

April 2010

Author: David Williams | Date: April 2010

Stepping stones to power

David Williams discusses why today\'s BNP presents a far more serious political threat than the 1970s National Front. ...

Author: Sonia Gable | Date: April 2010

Animal farm

Searchlight reveals how the BNP lost no time in getting its noses into the European Union expenses trough ..:

Home news

22 Election news in brief London campaign launch; BNP organiser's home is funded by Germany taxpayers; Former BNP candidate on explosives charge; Illiterate BNP; Candidate is violent, hate-filled bigot; Liverpool BNP ignores local people; Blackburn BNP forgets party name; BNP expels candidate; BNP candidate continues to bury head in the sand

World View

24 Hungary stumbles towards ethnic dictatorship by Janosz Malterik

26 Italy Racism meets fascism with predictable results, by Alfio Bernabei

27 Denmark Populist party role leads to growing Islamophobia, by Anne Jessen

28 USA Tea Parties, militias and race in public policy debate, by Leonard Zeskind and Devin Burghart

30 Russia Exploding hatred, by Svetlana Kononova

30 Austria Skinhead denounces Strache and police, by Martin Jordan

32 Netherlands SS killer jailed for life, by Jeroen Bosch

33 France FN given poll boost in regions, by Jean-Yves Camus

34 Germany Nazis sign up with biker gangs, by Michael Klein

If you would like to subscribe to Searchlight, please turn to the back page

Editorial...

Let's ensure HOPE triumphs over hate

THE BNP CAMPAIGN is falling apart. The party has been riven by splits and walkouts and even its head of publicity has threatened to kill the party leader. Nick Griffin is nowhere to be seen and his deputy, Simon Darby, has seen the party's "jewel in the crown" turn into a Christmas cracker prize. It is likely to lose most of its 28 councillors facing election and, in a general election year, it will struggle to win many more. Yet despite all this the BNP could achieve its biggest prize to date – control of a London local authority with a £200m a year budget.

Barking and Dagenham is the front line of this fight. Winning control of the council would be one of the sensations of these elections. It would also massively boost a party that remains on the fringes of political life. With the rest of its campaign falling apart the BNP is throwing everything into the east London borough.

There can be no underestimating the seriousness of this situation. The borough would become the racist capital of the UK. Businesses would cease to invest there and public services would be eroded as skilled workers leave rather than be tarnished – and that's before the BNP even begins to implement its extremist policies. Despite an appalling election campaign the BNP could still win control of the council or perhaps become the largest party.

And yet we can stop it. The HOPE not hate is enthusing people like never before. On 17 April, 541 people took to the streets of Barking and Dagenham to deliver 91,000 newspapers, making it the largest political mobilisation of this election campaign. Hundreds joined other events around the country. The vast majority of our activists are not aligned to any political party but they want to make a difference. While many might be disillusioned by mainstream politics they are inspired to halt the politics of hate.

There are just a few days of this election campaign left but there is more to be done. Faced with the prospect of a BNP-run council we need our supporters to help us again. Whether you live in London or elsewhere, there are ways you can help. And in the process of defeating the BNP we can show the political establishment that there is a better way to do politics – one that inspires and motivates people without descending into the politics of fear and playing fast and loose with race. ◄

The battle for Bar

rking and Dagenham

By Nick Lowles

The BNP goes into the final two weeks of the election with an all or nothing strategy. As its national campaign stutters and derails, the party is putting all its faith into Barking and Dagenham, where it is has set its sights on winning control of the council.

It is an all or nothing strategy and one that might determine the future of Nick Griffin as party leader.

Across the country the BNP is likely to be badly squeezed by the main parties. It will probably lose the bulk of its 28 councillors up for re-election and it is unlikely to make many gains.

Even in Stoke-on-Trent, which Griffin once described as the party's "jewel in the crown", its campaign has been overshadowed and derailed by the fallout from Councillor Alby Walker's resignation from the party. It is only standing six candidates out of a possible 20, two of whom are councillors seeking re-election.

If the BNP is to get anything out of the election it will be in Barking and Dagenham. If it wins control of the council then results in the rest of the country will be immaterial. It will be one of the sensational headlines of the election and will catapult the BNP into national prominence. The stakes are high and both Labour and the BNP know it.

***

THE BNP IS currently the official opposition on the council. It had 12 councillors when the election was called compared to Labour's 36. The Conservatives had two and there was one independent.

For the BNP to win control it needs 26 councillors.

The core of its support is found in the heart of the huge Becontree estate and in the 2008 London elections it beat Labour decisively in Mayesbrook, Goresbrook, Parsloes, Alibon and Valance wards. Ten of the BNP's 12 councillors were elected in these wards.

Even if the BNP took all 15 seats in these wards on 6 May it would need another 11 candidates elected in other wards to achieve control. With Labour strong in seven wards, the battle for control will centre on the remaining five wards. These are Eastbury and Village, where the BNP has one councillor in each, Heath, Becontree and Eastbrook.

In all these wards the battle is between Labour and the BNP, with the exception of Eastbrook, where there is a three-way battle with the Conservatives.

Becontree should be a safe Labour seat but three former Labour councillors are standing as independents and there are three Christian Party candidates. They could take votes off Labour and make this ward vulnerable to the BNP.

It would appear that the BNP attempt to win the control of the council has been scuppered by the fact that it could only find 34 candidates to stand for the 51 available seats. It is certainly true that the BNP struggled to get enough people to stand and several candidates' papers were rejected because they were not on the electoral register.

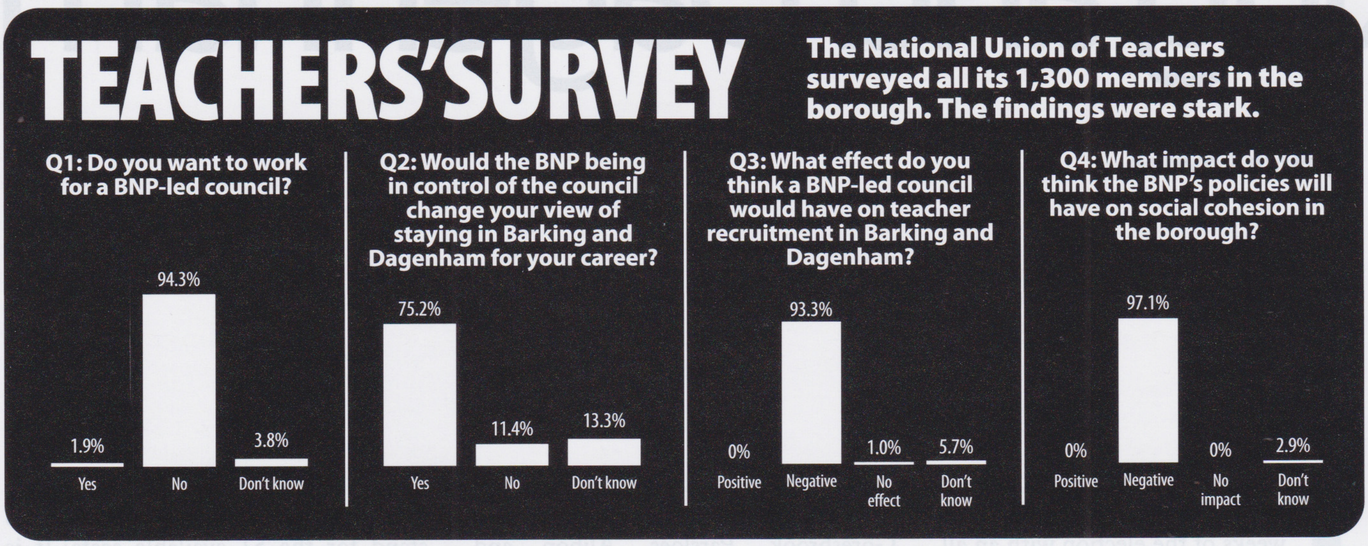
However, in some cases, putting up only one candidate in a ward might help the BNP where the result is close. One candidate will collect all the BNP voters plus all those wanting to mark a protest. With three candidates the votes of those who wanted to give just one vote to the BNP would be split among the three.

This could allow the BNP potentially to pick up a single councillor in several wards on the Dagenham side of the borough.

The BNP might also be helped by a resurgent Conservative Party in the north of the borough. The Conservatives could potentially take enough seats from Labour on the Dagenham side of the borough to deprive Labour of an overall majority on the council.

What certainly has not happened yet

Eddy Butler and Chris Roberts make a joke of "local" elections



for the BNP is the media frenzy that preceded its election triumph in 2006. While several media outlets have been in the borough covering the BNP story, not all have been helpful to the fascist party. Early on the media wrote about a possible BNP victory in both the parliamentary seat and the council but more recently the reporting has become more negative and has stressed the disharmony in the campaign and Griffin's absence.

The BNP has not helped itself by its choice of candidates. Several have been moved into the borough especially to stand in the elections. They include Eddy Butler, Chris Roberts, Giuseppe De Santis and Gavin Cardy.

Another outsider is Chris Forster, a former National Front member who is now the BNP organiser for Richmond and Kingston on the opposite side of London. He is eligible to stand because he owns the house where Richard Barnbrook and two other BNP candidates claim to live.

A sixth outsider is Jeffrey Marshall, the BNP's central London organiser who wrote approvingly of the death of David Cameron's son. His statements are likely to go down badly especially among women, who are anyway much less likely to vote BNP then men. Marshall is standing in one of the wards where the BNP must win if it hopes to take control of the council, but his reputation could damage the party's chances.

Marshall could well become the BNP's Achilles heal.

Jeffrey Marshal: objects to disability

Overall, the BNP has run a lacklustre campaign. Griffin has hardly been around and the BNP has been unable to use the media as it once did. While all this is encouraging there is certainly no room for complacency. Support for the BNP is hard, particularly for the council, and no amount of poor national publicity is likely to prevent its core voters from turning out.

***

FOR THE HOPE not hate campaign the battle for Barking and Dagenham was always going to come down to the five key wards that will decide who controls the council. We came under some criticism when we first said this, but we believe that our approach has been vindicated by events.

While some people focused heavily on Griffin's parliamentary campaign in Barking our focus was always on the threat to the council. In an interview with *The Guardian* Griffin admitted that the council was "the real prize" and his decision to stand was more about taking the sting away from the local candidates.

He repeated this view to the *Evening Standard*, in London, where he admitted that he had no chance of winning.

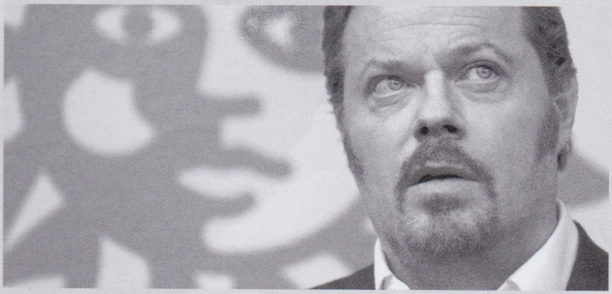
Our view was quite simple. If the BNP is to win control of the council then it needs to gain councillors in all these five wards. Stop the BNP here and the BNP cannot win. Fact.

On 17 April we delivered a newspaper to all 70,000 properties in the borough (see pages 17-19). This was our last big general mobilisation. For the rest of the campaign we are delivering specific letters and leaflets to different voters in our key wards. Our research shows that men who dislike the BNP do so for different reasons than women. Women are much less likely to vote for the BNP than men. Obviously black and Asian voters have an intrinsic interest in hoping the BNP does not get elected. And so the list goes on.

On 6 May the fortunes of the BNP will rest on its performance in Barking and Dagenham. It is clear that it will win a number of seats in the East London borough. Our hope is that our work across the borough and specifically in the five key wards will be enough to stop the fascists from taking control of the council. ◀

BARKING & DAGENHAM May Bank Holiday Extravaganza

MONDAY 3 MAY



DAILY Mirror
HOPE
LEYLAND
FTE 630B
T THOMPSONS SOLICITORS

Come campaigning with Eddie Izzard and the HOPE not hate bus

10.30am – 1pm

HOPE not hate HQ, 50-52 New Road Dagenham RM9 6YS

Afterwards come to a HOPE not hate summer party from 2 till 4pm with children's activities and food from across the globe at St Patrick's Church, Blake Avenue, Barking IG11 9SQ. **See www.hopenothate.org.uk for more details.**

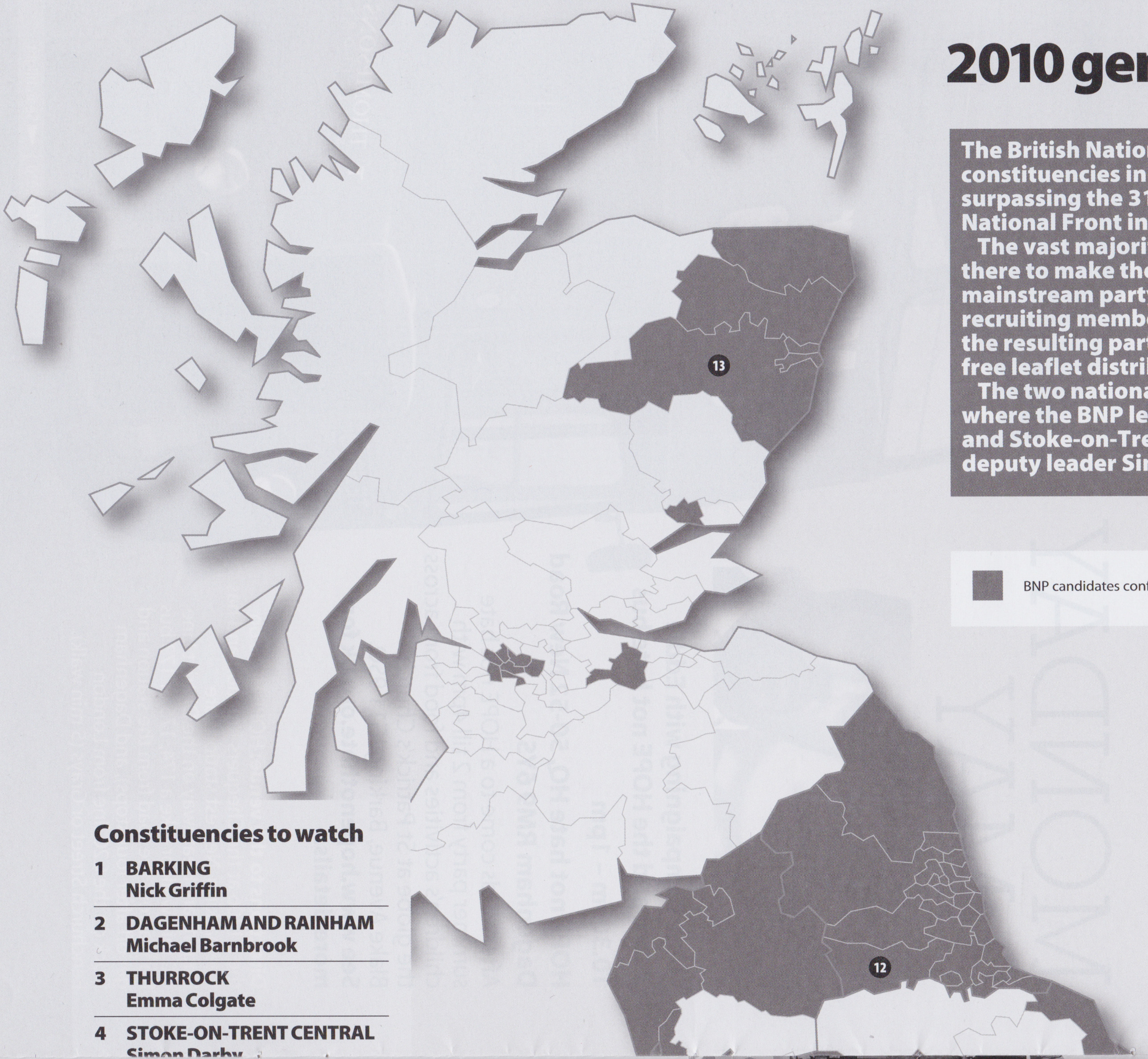
Directions to the venue: HOPE HQ is on the A1306 at the Chequers junction and has free parking. Nearest stations are Dagenham Heathway on the District Line (10 min walk or take a 174, 175 or 173 bus from across the road from the station and get off after four stops), and Dagenham Dock on the C2C line from London Fenchurch Street or Grays (5 min walk).

2010 general election

The British National Party is contesting 338 constituencies in the general election, surpassing the 319 candidates fielded by the National Front in 1979.

The vast majority will be paper candidates, there to make the BNP look like a serious mainstream party and in the hope of recruiting members and attract funding from the resulting party political broadcasts and free leaflet distribution by the Royal Mail.

The two national priorities are Barking, where the BNP leader Nick Griffin is standing, and Stoke-on-Trent Central, contested by the deputy leader Simon Darby.



Constituencies to watch

1. **BARKING**
   Nick Griffin
2. **DAGENHAM AND RAINHAM**
   Michael Barnbrook
3. **THURROCK**
   Emma Colgate
4. **STOKE-ON-TRENT CENTRAL**
   Simon Darby

Simon Darby

5 **STOKE-ON-TRENT SOUTH**
Michael Coleman

6 **AMBER VALLEY**
Michael Clarke

7 **MORLEY AND OUTWOOD**
Chris Beverley

8 **BARNSLEY CENTRAL**
Ian Sutton

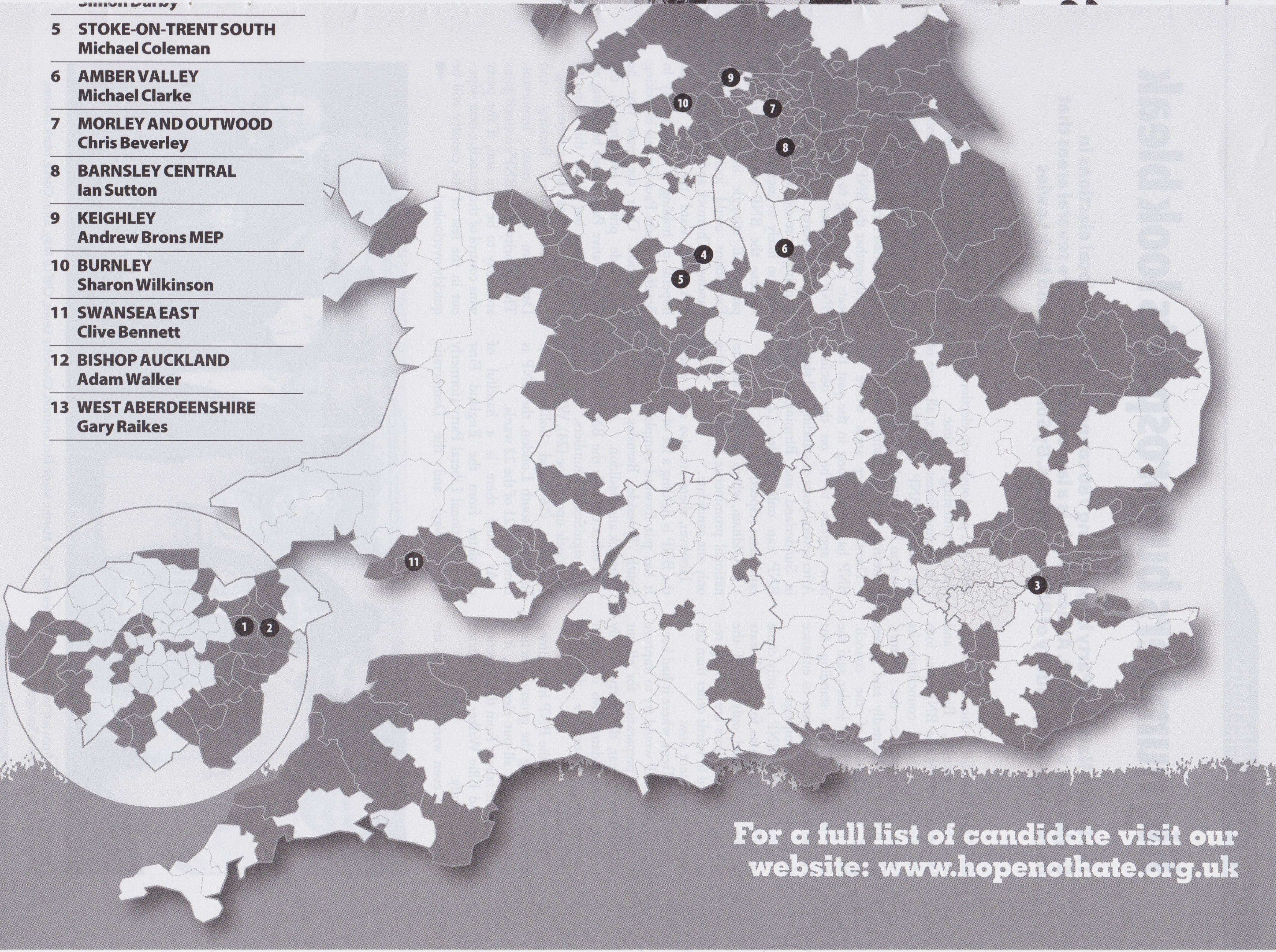
9 **KEIGHLEY**
Andrew Brons MEP

10 **BURNLEY**
Sharon Wilkinson

11 **SWANSEA EAST**
Clive Bennett

12 **BISHOP AUCKLAND**
Adam Walker

13 **WEST ABERDEENSHIRE**
Gary Raikes



For a full list of candidate visit our website: www.hopenothate.org.uk

Big numbers but prospects look bleak

The British National Party is contesting 780 council seats in the local elections in England on 6 May 2010. Although this is a large number, there are several areas that have a surprising paucity of BNP candidates. By Sonia Gable and Nick Lowles

ONE OF THOSE is the racist party's top target council, Barking and Dagenham, where the BNP goes into the election with 12 councillors, its largest contingent in the country. The BNP has repeatedly said it was going for control of the council. Nick Griffin, the BNP leader, said the main purpose of him standing for Parliament in Barking was to enhance the party's council campaign.

In the event the BNP has only come up with 34 candidates for the 51 seats on the council and only six of the existing 12 councillors are seeking re-election, several in wards other than the ones they represent now.

In Stoke-on-Trent, where it had been thought the BNP would try to improve its position in preparation for all-out elections next year, the party is only fielding six candidates, two of whom are existing councillors defending their seats.

While publicly the BNP has claimed it was prioritising the general election and next year's all-out elections, it is clear that the fallout from the defection of Alby and Ellie Walker has affected the party badly.

There are even wards in which the BNP had previously won elections that it is not contesting this time.

In Epping Forest district, all three of the current BNP councillors facing election have vanished and the party is contesting their seats with new faces.

There are other areas where the BNP has been strong in the past but now appears to be on the decline. After several years of standing full slates in Sunderland and Birmingham the BNP can only muster 12 and 30 candidates respectively.

In Oldham, where the BNP came to national prominence in 2001, there is only one candidate.

However, there are also areas where the BNP is fielding a lot of candidates. It has put forward complete slates in South Tyneside, Barnsley, Sandwell, Thurrock and Basildon.

In other councils the BNP is standing significant numbers, including Newcastle upon Tyne (24), Wigan (19), Tameside (16) and Solihull (16). In Bexley, south London, the BNP is contesting 21 of the 22 wards.

As usual there is a handful of candidates from the England First Party, National Liberal Party (formerly Third Way) and the Democratic Nationalists, which arose out of the BNP rebellion of winter 2007-08. There are also rather more than previously from the National Front, which has been attracting some disillusioned former BNP members.

Altogether the BNP is defending 28 seats and seeking to regain two where BNP councillors have recently left the party. However, with so many not standing for re-election and the general election likely to increase turnout and squeeze the BNP vote, the far-right party will struggle in most places. Exceptions could include wards in Sandwell, Thurrock and Havering.

Another ward the BNP will be hopeful of holding is Queensbury in Bradford where Paul Cromie is seeking re-election. Over the past year he has made private overtures to the Conservative Party about becoming an independent but either this came to nothing or he was playing them along.

All this makes Barking and Dagenham even more important. The majority of the BNP's council gains are likely to be here and, if the party wins control of the council, a near wipe-out in the rest of the country will be quickly overlooked. ◄

Croydon candidates from left to right: Donna Treanor, Tony Martin, Marie McCammon, Charlotte Lewis, Cliff Le May, John Clarke, Mark Skinner, Dave Clarke and Rowena Savage.

BNP 2010 local election candidates by region

For a full listing of local election candidates visit www.hopenothate.org.uk/2010/local

EAST OF ENGLAND

council	No of BNP candidates
Basildon	14
Broxbourne	10
Colchester	1
Epping Forest	4
Hertsmere	2
Ipswich	1
North Hertfordshire	3
Rochford	4
Southend	17
St Albans	1
Stevenage	1
Thurrock	16
Welwyn Hatfield	1

LONDON

council	No of BNP candidates
Barking & Dagenham	34
Barnet	1
Bexley	26
Brent	1
Bromley	3
Camden	3
Croydon	9
Ealing	2
Enfield	4
Greenwich	13
Harrow	1
Havering	8
Hillingdon	4
Hounslow	6
Islington	6
Merton	5
Redbridge	7
Richmond upon Thames	2
Southwark	1
Sutton	4
Tower Hamlets	4
Wandsworth	1
Lewisham	1

NORTH EAST

council	No of BNP candidates
Gateshead	16
Hartlepool	5
Newcastle upon Tyne	24
North Tyneside	22
South Tyneside	18
Sunderland	12

NORTH WEST

council	No of BNP candidates
Barrow-in Furness	1
Blackburn with Darwen	3
Bolton	4
Burnley	11
Bury	10
Carlisle	9
Carlisle County Council	1
Hyndburn	1
Knowsley	1
Liverpool	8
Manchester	1
Oldham	1
Pendle	9
Rochdale	4
Salford	9
Sefton	9
St Helens	8
Stockport	9
Tameside	15
Warrington	1
Wigan	20
Wirral	5

SOUTH EAST

council	No of BNP candidates
Basingstoke & Deane	1
Crawley	6
Hastings	3
Milton Keynes	1
Reigate & Banstead	2
Woking	1

SOUTH WEST

council	No of BNP candidates
Bristol	12
Plymouth	1
Swindon	6

EAST MIDLANDS

council	No of BNP candidates
Amber Valley	6
Bassetlaw	1
Lincoln	4
Derby	5

WEST MIDLANDS

council	No of BNP candidates
Birmingham	30
Cannock Chase	2
Dudley	4
Nuneaton & Bedworth	12
Redditch	1
Sandwell	24
Solihull	16
Stoke-on-Trent	9
Walsall	2
Wolverhampton	4
Worcester	6

YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

council	No of BNP candidates
Barnsley	21
Bradford	12
Calderdale	7
Doncaster	4
Harrogate	3
Kingston upon Hull	2
Kirklees	21
Leeds	31
North East Lincolnshire	1
Rotherham	11
Sheffield	13
Wakefield	19

NEW BNP?
Same old nazis and thugs

The BNP claims it has changed. A quick review of its election candidates shows that they are the same old nazis, thugs and racists that they always were. By David Williams and Simon Cressy

TOM GOWER
Coventry North East

Gower works full-time as the BNP enquiries officer. He is also the Coventry contact for the racist and pagan Woden's Folk and was involved in the English Heathen Front (EHF), a racist group espousing "blood and soil" ideology. The EHF was the English "chapter" of the Allgermanische Heidnische Front (AHF), an international network of "tribes" that evolved out of the Norsk Hedensk Front, a group founded in 1993 by Varg Vikernes, the Norwegian black metal musician and murderer whose own brand of heathenism included a heavy dose of national socialism, antisemitism, eugenics and racism.

SHELLEY ROSE
Luton North

A rising star in the BNP, Rose is part of a social group of BNP activists in the East Midlands and an antisemite who wrote on her Facebook page, "I would rather put myself out and pay a bit more at a smaller local shop, than line the pockets of the kikes that run Tesco". She attended the National Front Remembrance Day parade in 2009 with Chris Hurst, the BNP PPC for Twickenham.

ROBIN EVANS
Blackburn

Evans was once a Blackburn BNP councillor but found the council budget too much to cope with. "It's all mumbo jumbo, I don't understand a word of it," he stated. He resigned from the BNP in 2003 after an internal dispute and joined the openly fascist British National Socialist Party, returning to the BNP.

KEN BOOTH
Newcastle upon Tyne Central

Booth is the former North East National Front organiser who caused widespread disgust in 2007 when he compared the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz to Disneyland. He refused to believe the "official figures" of those who died in the Holocaust and did not recognise the "authenticity" of the buildings at Auschwitz.

LYNNE MOZAR
Buckingham

Mozar, who runs the BNP's Trafalgar Club fundraising group, is notorious for her appearance on the Sky TV documentary *BNP Wives* in which "in private sometimes" she admitted calling black people "niggers". She also claimed that "Pakis" was the "legal term for them [Asians]". While manning a stall opposite a mosque in Fareham, Mozar shouted "fat slag" at a passerby who questioned her views.

MATHEW TAIT
Milton Keynes South

Tait, the Buckinghamshire BNP organiser, travelled to the cancelled 2010 American Renaissance conference, where he moaned to those who turned up that the Equality and Human Rights Commission court case had forced the BNP to accept "people who we would wish to not have in our country really to be members of our party".

MIKE SHORE
Broxtowe

Until 2003 Shore was the National Front's East Midlands organiser and treasurer. He was also Midlands convener of a British incarnation of the Ku Klux Klan. His conversion to the BNP came as a surprise to former colleagues.

RICHARD HAMILTON
Milton Keynes North

A former soldier, Hamilton took part in the mock trial and execution of a gollywog at the 2009 BNP Red, White and Blue festival. The *News of the World* noted that before the trial, "Hamilton's ghettoblaster blared out songs supporting Hitler and attacking 'ni**ers'". The BNP claimed his membership had been "suspended" as a result of the affair, though evidently not for very long.

CHRIS BEVERLEY
Morley and Outwood

Beverley is a leading figure in Yorkshire BNP and a key link with the National Democratic Party (NPD) in Germany whose leader believes that Hitler was a "great statesman". Beverley works as PA and constituency office manager for Andrew Brons, the BNP MEP for Yorkshire and the Humber, and recently refused to condemn Hitler in a radio broadcast saying that he did not hate him.

IAN MELLER
Leicestershire North West

Meller, a BNP councillor in North West Leicestershire, is a former National Front activist who took part in a demonstration against a Gay Pride march in Leicester in August 2000. Meller, then 35, was fined £400 and £55 costs for carrying an offensive weapon, believed to have been a chair leg.

Freedom
Freedom
Betrayed by Labour

(left to right) Charlotte Lewis, Eddy Butler, Shelley Rose, Ken Booth, Sharif Abdel Gawad and Ian Meller

CHARLOTTE LEWIS
Carshalton and Wallington

Lewis was jailed for six months in 2001 for sending a series of "chilling" death threats to employees of Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) animal research laboratory in Cambridgeshire. She posts racist comments on social networking sites but claims she is not a racist but a "racial survivalist". In 2009 Croydon Council considered taking action against her after she boasted of participating in a racist hate campaign against her neighbours. (See also page 23.)

BARRY BENNETT
Gosport

Bennett was, until recently, a regular user of the American-based nazi Stormfront website, despite being half Jewish, "from ancestry not religion" he is keen to stress. "I believe in National Socialism, WW2 style, it was best, no other power had anything like it," he wrote. "The ideology was fantastic. The culture, nothing like it. If it was here now, I'd defect to Germany."

EDDY BUTLER
Harlow

Butler has been involved with the far right since the early 1980s when he was the Tower Hamlets organiser for the National Front. After he joined the BNP he and a team of thugs laid into a group of anti-fascists with hammers and other weapons in east London in 1992. In 1993 he organised the "Rights for whites" campaign that won the BNP its first councillor, Derek Beackon, in a Tower Hamlets by-election, though he only held the seat for seven months. Until his sudden demotion Butler was the BNP's national organiser and elections officer (see page 14). He is also standing for Barking and Dagenham council, despite still living in Loughton.

CHRIS FORSTER
Hayes and Harlington

A National Front supporter in the 1970s and a former treasurer of the Conservative Monday Club, Forster, who is also standing for Barking and Dagenham council, works as a psychic but failed to foresee *Searchlight's* exposé of him in the *Evening Standard* in 2009. Forster helped compile the BNP's 2009/10 Barking and Dagenham council budget, which attracted great opprobrium. Hypocritically, he is married to a Chinese woman with whom he has a child.

TESS CULNANE
Orpington

Tess Culnane was a BNP member until a row with the party after which she stormed off to join the National Front for which she stood in the 2008 London Assembly election. She also addressed meetings of the openly Nazi British People's Party. The BNP denounced the NF as "neo-fascist" but this has not proved an impediment to Culnane rejoining the BNP and working for Richard Barnbrook, the BNP's London Assembly member.

EDWARD SHEPPARD
Coventry North West

Sheppard stood for the BNP in the 2001 general election in Coventry North East, but could not stand in 2005 as he was jailed for three years in 2002 for shooting a man at point blank range. Mold Crown Court heard how Christopher Willans had mistakenly knocked on Sheppard's window, believing it to be part of a property owned by a close friend. On discovering his mistake, Willans apologised to Sheppard and left the area. While walking home Willans was confronted by Sheppard who shot him at close range with a .22 calibre pistol through his car window.

MARLENE GUEST
Rotherham

Guest is the Rotherham BNP organiser. Like Mozar she appeared on the Sky TV *BNP Wives* documentary in which she claimed that the number of deaths in the Holocaust had been exaggerated and that the Jews were putting Germany on a guilt trip. Asked if any good had come out of the Holocaust, she replied: "Well, apparently, didn't they get a lot of dentistry and plastic surgery", referring to the Nazis' barbaric "medical experiments".

JEFFREY MARSHALL
Eastbury ward, Barking and Dagenham Council

Marshall, the central London BNP organiser, displayed the poisonous side of the BNP in February 2009 following the death of the six-year-old son of David Cameron, the Conservative Party leader. In a cruel and warped outburst against those who had expressed their condolences at the death of Ivan, who suffered from cerebral palsy and epilepsy, Marshall wrote in an internet politics group: "We live in a country today which is unhealthily dominated by an excess of sentimentality towards the weak and unproductive. No good will come of it."

Marshall continued his sick tirade, stating that although it would be "a kindness" to kill children with disabilities, this was not the same as advocating such a measure as compulsory state policy. "But so what if it is," he declared. "At least we would all know where we stand. There is actually not a great deal of point in keeping these sort of people alive, after all."

SHARIF ABDEL GAWAD
Bolton and Undercliffe ward, Bradford Council

Abdel Gawad of Bowling, Bradford, was convicted for possession of heroin by Bradford magistrates in December 2007. He first stood for the BNP in Bradford in May 2006, when his candidacy caused uproar in the party because of his less than Aryan credentials. The party insisted that he was of Armenian descent and most certainly "Christian" not a Muslim. Interviewed by *The Independent* he said he was "concerned about law and order, particularly the drugs epidemic in Bradford".

Young, nazi and out of a job

A record number of general election candidates masks a British National Party suffering from internal tensions, a series of embarrassments and continuing questions over its finances. Sonia Gable investigates

As British National Party members were still taking in the implications of the extensive constitutional changes forced on them by the Equality and Human Rights Commission, they were hit by news of the suspension of the party's national publicity officer.

A bulletin to party organisers on 31 March accused Mark Collett of "conspiring with a small clique of other party officials to launch a 'palace coup'" against Nick Griffin, the BNP leader, and spreading "lies and unfounded rumours". He had therefore been "relieved of all positions within the party with immediate effect".

Collett, 29, was also accused of "financial irregularities and scamming" over printing BNP election material and its *Identity* magazine, leaking sensitive party information on the internet and feeding "lies" to anti-BNP blog sites. And there had been a "catalogue of recurring and seemingly inexplicable 'gaffes' being made at various stages in our preparations for the general election by certain individuals within the party".

The same bulletin stated that the police had been "made aware of very serious allegations potentially affecting the personal safety" of Griffin and Jim Dowson, the BNP's fundraising and management consultant.

The "other party officials" said to have conspired with Collett were not named. However two days after the announcement Emma Colgate resigned as the party's staff manager saying she wanted to devote herself full-time to the election campaign in Thurrock, where she is standing for parliament and also hoping to get more BNP councillors elected.

"We're in with a real chance in Thurrock and I want to give it my best shot," she said. "I cannot properly work fill-time [sic] on the campaign while being paid by EU taxpayers to manage our European staff."

As it was a party position from which she had resigned, this was a clear admission that the BNP had been using EU taxpayers' money to fund its party apparatus.

There was also a rapid exit by Eddy Butler from his position as the BNP's national organiser and national elections officer. His replacement, Clive Jefferson, is a rising star in the party. Appointed as North West regional organiser and national nominating officer last year, he too is on the BNP's European Parliament payroll.

However Butler was "still very much with the BNP and is set to play a leading role in the party's attempt to take control of the Barking and Dagenham council," a special meeting of party officers and organisers was told.

The meeting, rapidly convened on Easter Monday, "unanimously" appointed a "four man strong subcommittee" to listen to an alleged tape recording of a conversation between Collett and the party treasurer David Hannam, which the party claims would enable the police to "investigate a number of potential crimes including threats to murder, assault, fraud and falsification of accounts", according to a BNP statement issued afterwards.

The committee declared the tape genuine, although the statement did not explain how they arrived at that verdict. However it is understood that the police are unlikely to bring any charges because the tape has been "edited".

Perhaps the BNP did not really want a prosecution as a court case might reveal a lot more than it wishes to be made public.

Butler's precise role in the BNP's Barking and Dagenham campaign is unclear. Last November Griffin announced that Richard Barnbrook, the BNP's London Assembly member, would spearhead the campaign. Perhaps he has not been producing the canvassing returns Griffin expects.

Barnbrook and Butler are both standing for election in Goresbrook ward, where the BNP currently has two councillors. Butler recently put himself on the electoral register in Dagenham, despite remaining on the register at his real home in Loughton, Essex. Barnbrook and Bob Bailey, the BNP's council group leader, pulled a similar trick at the time of their election in 2006. They got away with it then, but Butler and some other BNP candidates who have suddenly "moved" to Barking and Dagenham are likely to face investigation if elected.

Even so, the BNP has only managed to find 34 candidates for the 51 council seats in the borough, making it near impossible for it to win the 26 councillors needed to gain control.

This is not the BNP's only problem. Delays have beset the party's general election manifesto. As we went to press, the BNP said it would be launched in Stoke-on-Trent on 23 April, less than two weeks before polling day. The party has previously announced that its main election themes would be withdrawal from Afghanistan, immigration and "the global warming conspiracy". On the issue that is near the top in most voters' minds, the economy, the fascist party has little to say.

Whether the manifesto delay is one of the "gaffes" being blamed on Collett is not known, but Collett would most likely have been responsible for its design and printing.

One huge gaffe unlikely to be Collett's responsibility, because it occurred on 14 April well after Collett's departure, was the Normandy veteran fiasco.

The previous day HOPE not hate sent an email to supporters asking them to join its big day of action on 17 April. Headed "I fought the Nazis. Will you?" it consisted of a personal message from Kenneth Riley, a Normandy veteran who fought in the Tank Division.

Amazingly the next day the BNP posted a nearly word-for-word identical message on its website, excepted that it implored people to support the party. It was signed off by "Bob Head", who

Mark Collett: accused of financial irregularities and threatening Nick Griffin

claimed to have been "attached to the 51st Highland Division". Instead of asking for volunteers, it solicited £20 donations.

Riley was furious that the BNP had "stolen" his words and put his name to a new email for HOPE not hate to raise money for the anti-BNP campaign. The Normandy Veterans Association said it had never heard of Head and cast doubt on his claimed service record and medals.

Head's email was one of only a small number appealing for donations for the BNP's election campaign. Unlike in the run-up to last year's European election, the BNP's fundraising effort this year has been lacklustre. No begging letters have been dispatched for some time and appeals on the party's website and by email have been unambitious. Website donation links go straight to a form without any exhortation to encourage generosity.

The official launch of the BNP's campaign fund on 10 April claimed that the party had already raised £275,000, including £165,000 in election deposits, and was looking for another £180,000. The party was not being entirely straight. Most general election candidates are expected to pay their own £500 deposits or raise the money locally.

For several weeks the party has been reporting branch meetings around the country that have raised highly unlikely sums, considering that most of its supporters come from the lower socio-economic groups. Revelations that Griffin and Andrew Brons, his fellow MEP, have been misusing their European parliamentary expenses, coupled with the Collett "financial irregularities" accusation, cannot have enhanced the confidence of potential donors that their money would be well spent.

To add to the party's financial woes, the Electoral Commission announced on 15 April that it had upgraded its review of the British National Party's accounts to a formal investigation.

The BNP has already been fined £1,000 because its 2008 accounts were submitted nearly six months late. They came with a report from the party's auditors, Silver & Co, stating that they did not give a true and fair view and did not "comply with the requirements of the Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000 as adequate records have not been made available". Even Griffin admitted the accounts were "inadequate".

The Electoral Commission emphasised that the fact that an investigation had been launched did not mean that electoral rules had been breached. A statement by the commission explained that "no conclusion has been reached and therefore no assumption should be made as to whether a breach of the rules has occurred".

That did not stop the BNP describing the investigation as "an obviously politically motivated attack" and claiming ludicrously that the party had been assured it would be closed the following week.

Meanwhile the embarrassing leaks of financial information that the BNP tried to blame on Collett appear to be continuing. Earlier this year it emerged that the BNP had paid over £360,000 to businesses connected with Dowson during the first 11 months of 2009, a significant proportion of the party's budget. This fact and the central position Dowson holds in the BNP's operations gave rise to our conclusion that Dowson in effect owns the BNP.

The latest leak suggests that Dowson's hold over the party continues, with more than £51,000 paid to his company Adlorries.com in March alone.

It has been suggested that Dowson was responsible for Collett's suspension and supporters of Collett have thrown the "financial irregularities" accusation back at Dowson. Many in the BNP are suspicious of the close relationship between Griffin and Dowson, who claims he is not a party member.

Whether Collett's BNP career is truly over remains to be seen. His Wikipedia page, which was hastily updated to record his suspension, states that his membership was reinstated a week later, though he has not got his old job back.

Collett has bounced back twice before, once after he notoriously starred in the television documentary *Young, Nazi and Proud*, in which he said he was inspired by images of German Nazis "sieg heiling" in the streets, the second time after the internal rebellion in the BNP in winter 2007-08, when he was widely accused of incompetence. He claims to remain "completely loyal" to the party and has offered to help with local election material. ◄

Dissent derails Stoke BNP election campaign

By David Williams

SIMON DARBY, the deputy BNP leader, once promised that he would never desert the people of Dudley North, where he had stood in previous elections. In January he did just that.

He had set his sights on the more winnable constituency of Stoke-on-Trent Central. Over the past few years Alby Walker, the Stoke BNP council group leader, had given the BNP a measure of respectability, gradually gaining nine council seats and setting the party on the road to taking control.

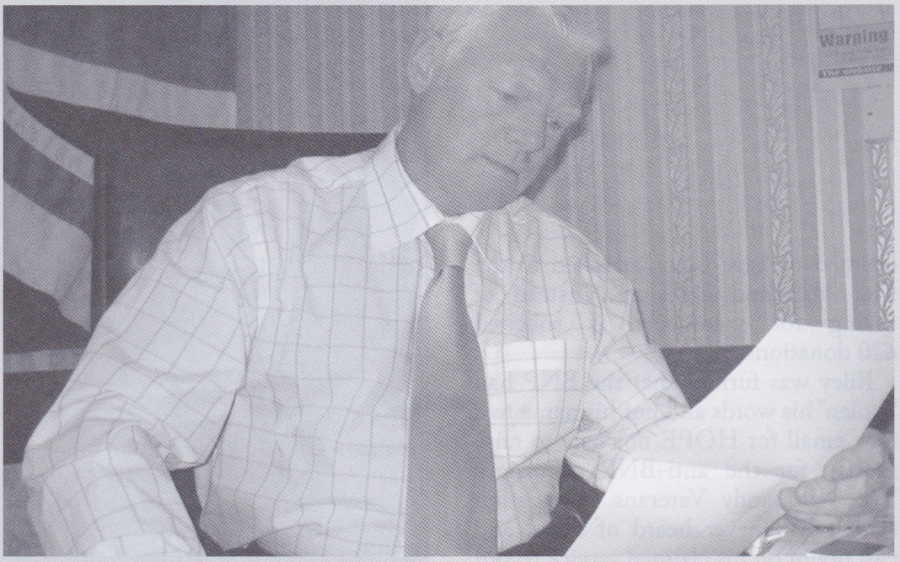
This steady progress has now been derailed. Darby and Nick Griffin, the party leader, in their rush for glory pushed Walker aside and declared Darby the candidate. Walker stood down as branch organiser shortly before Christmas causing the local party to fracture.

Wary of Walker's popularity in the local BNP and the local community, the BNP cautioned its followers not to attack him. Darby damned him with faint praise on his blog, claiming that Walker had endorsed his campaign and would act as his election agent.

However, on the day Darby launched his campaign Walker threw a spanner in the works with an announcement that he had left the BNP and would stand against Darby as an independent. The gloves came off. Darby began impugning Walker's reputation, insinuating that the local Labour party had bought him off.

On a regional BBC programme Walker stated, "there's a vein of Holocaust denying within the BNP that I cannot identify myself with. They've still got senior members of the BNP who will be candidates in the general election that have nazi, naziesque sympathies."

He also accused Griffin of using the BNP "as some kind of vehicle to make himself rich and famous". He added later that the BNP insisted its candidates undergo training on how to answer questions about the Holocaust, aware that its antisemitism was its Achilles heel.


Alby Walker: could not stand the BNP's nazis and Holocaust deniers

The BNP responded viciously, stating that Walker had jumped before he was pushed because of his "pressing mental health issues", an accusation that is a hallmark of totalitarian regimes the world over. It also insinuated that Walker was a former football hooligan.

The statement was quickly removed from the party website but the damage was done. Ellie Walker, Alby's wife who was also a BNP councillor, declared herself independent. It was to be expected, stated Simon Darby though gritted teeth.

Walker's resignation has seriously affected Stoke BNP. In 2008 the party fielded a record 11 council candidates; this year it has only six, two of whom are councillors seeking re-election. Michael Coleman, who took over from Walker, conceded that he had approached 25 people to contest the 20 available city council seats for the BNP but most declined.

"I have had a bit of a falling-out with people over this and it has caused a rift within the group," Coleman admitted. "We thought we would be able to put up about 14 candidates this year. The Alby Walker situation has also damaged us to a degree, as some of the people who would have stood for us have left because they feel he has been treated badly."

Only a few months ago the BNP looked likely to emerge as the dominant force on a fractured city council. Instead, having found only four new candidates, Coleman is squandering one in an act of petty spite by putting him up against Alby Walker in Abbey Green in an attempt to damage Walker's chances of re-election.

The remaining BNP councillor in Abbey Green, Melanie Baddley, enters the general election, in which she is contesting Stoke North, with her reputation tarnished following the arrest of her husband over an alleged drugs offence. He is currently on police bail.

Stoke BNP also has to contend with the emergence of the England First Party (EFP) in the city, which is giving disgruntled former BNP activists a vehicle for their discontent. Coleman dismissed it as "just vengeful hatred" from former members "directed against myself and possibly a few others in the BNP". No doubt he is incensed that Spencer Cartlidge, once a regular BNP candidate who left before the 2008 elections, is challenging BNP councillor Anthony Simmonds in Weston and Meir North.

Another EFP candidate, Mark Leat, is a former BNP councillor for Longton North who was sacked from the BNP and subsequently defeated, but is contesting the ward again. The BNP could not find anyone to stand against him. The EFP is also contesting Fenton, where the BNP polled 36.1% in 2006 but is not standing this time. This, perhaps more than anything else, is indicative of the turmoil within the BNP in Stoke. ◄

Record breakers

Nick Lowles reports on a massive HOPE not hate day of action in Barking & Dagenham

The HOPE not hate campaign took to the streets of Barking and Dagenham in quite dramatic fashion on 17 April with an astonishing 541 people at our day of action.

There were so many people in fact that all the 82,000 newspapers for the borough had left our campaign HQ by 12.45pm. We frantically had to draw up some new maps for neighbouring Havering to ensure that we had something for latecomers to deliver.

In total we put out 91,000 newspapers across Barking and Dagenham and Havering. We could have easily delivered another 20,000 more. This smashed our previous HnH record turnout of 221 people distributing 45,000 newspapers in Sandwell in 2007.

Our supporters came from across London. Almost 50 people boarded a double-decker bus in Hackney, where they joined 14 who had got on in Kentish Town. Twenty came in on a train from Haringey and a similar number met up at King's Cross. The 10.35am train from Fenchurch Street to Dagenham Dock brought another 50 people.

Some had joined us from further afield. A couple of young women had travelled from Bristol, there were two from Leicester, a woman from Brighton and a man who thankfully came in a people carrier from Eastbourne.

There were so many that the queue to sign in and collect newspapers wound down the stairs from our third floor office and out of the door.

It is was a beautiful day and the atmosphere was electric. Most people came back to our headquarters for a fantastic curry and a few songs from Billy Bragg.

Much of the credit for the day running so smoothly is due to the preparation that went into it. The HOPE not hate staff had worked tirelessly over the previous four days to get everything ready. Maps had been created for 250 walks, most with directions from our base. The newspapers had been counted out and bagged up in advance and a fleet of minibuses and cars were lined up to ferry people around.

The day was made possible with the support of the NUT and the PCS. The NUT sponsored the newspaper and together with the PCS paid for the lunch. Thanks also must go to Unite, which has given us office space in its building and provided over 20 activists to cover Goresbrook ward. Staff from Unison HQ were also out in force, taking a chunk of Eastbrook ward.

HOPE NOT HATE

Oliver Holt
MIRROR SPORTS WRITER OLIVER HOLT LOOKS AHEAD TO THE WORLD CUP
page 8

king & Dagenham special
THE REAL NICK GRIFFIN
page 4

page 6
FIONA PHILLIPS on why our Britain is better than theirs

www.hopenothate.org.uk

HANDS OFF!

Don't let Nick Griffin seize control of our council ● Full story page 4 & 5

The evening before

The turnout was even more amazing given that we are in the middle of a general election campaign and the political parties discouraged their activists from attending. The vast majority of those who came were out with us for the first time and many expressed interest in setting up a HOPE not hate group in their area.

It was the second event Billy Bragg had done with us this year and he was once again moved by the spirit of the occasion. "What a day, what a campaign," he told us later. "Real people tackling the real issues and united in that common goal of defeating the fascists. The folks at HnH always do the hard graft and go that extra mile. I get Searchlight every month and every month they put the hard word on the fascists, but walking the walk as they do, you know, this gives me real hope that we are building a movement here that will really give hope to those people feeling swamped by the BNP."

The day was fantastic, and one that we will never forget, but the job is not done. The HOPE not hate campaign will be having another mass mobilisation in Barking and Dagenham on Monday 3 May and we will be urging hundreds more to join us. ◄

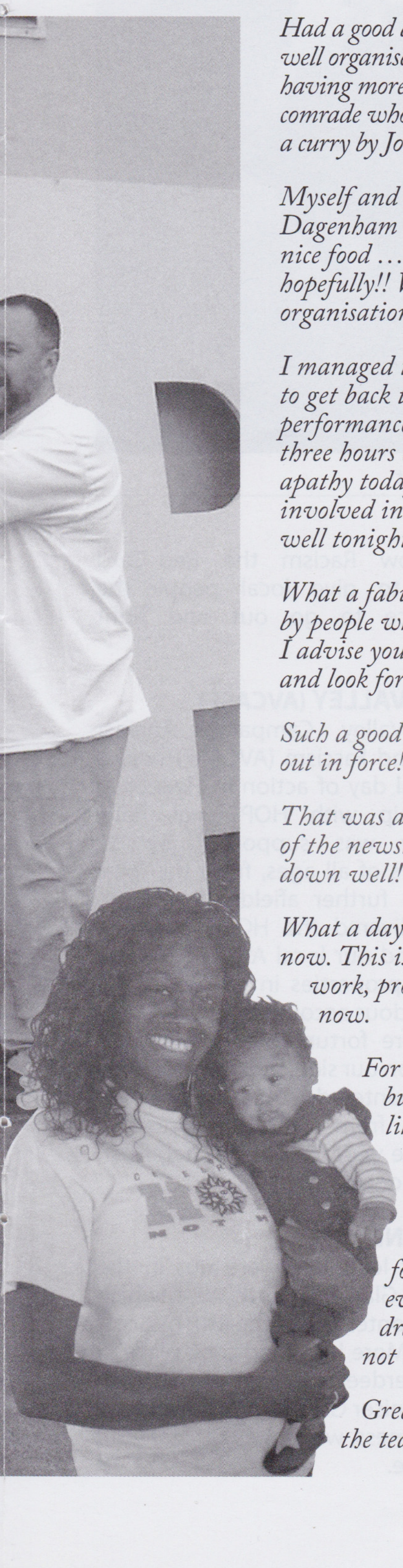
The real picture **The view**

In the immediate aftermath of the Barking and Dagenham day of action dozens of people who participated sent us messages of support. Here are just a few.

HOPE
NOT HATE

Photos: Kelly Haddow

from the streets



Had a good day yesterday leafleting with Hope not Hate, well organised and lots of enthusiastic young people, all having more energy then me. Plus met up with an old comrade who I had not seen for 18 years. Then, I was served a curry by Jon Cruddas! What a day! **Sonya Howard**

Myself and the girls from Thompsons had a great day in Dagenham today, nice weather, nice music, nice people, nice food … outstanding turnout … bye bye BNP hopefully!! Well done Searchlight for the amazing organisation! **Victoria Hodge**

I managed to do two walks this morning before having to get back to north Essex. Had to miss Billy's performance and lunch but worth every moment of the three hours driving. One very big poke in the eye for apathy today. Very well organised – well done all involved in organising and am sure you'll all sleep very well tonight. **Henry Hounds**

What a fabulous day's work. How cool to be surrounded by people who all feel the same way about the BNP. I advise you all to go to the HOPE not Hate website and look for your nearest activity day. **Shay Martin**

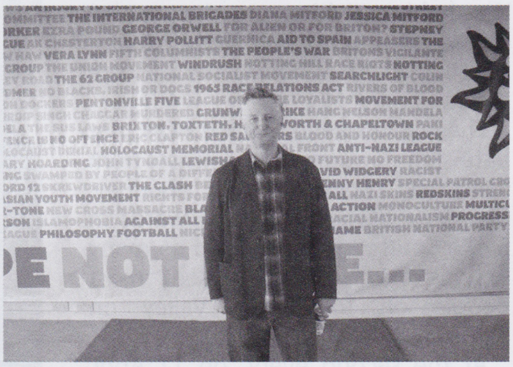
Such a good day today, amazing to see so many activists out in force! **Hannah McFaul**

That was a fantastic few hours. I left a few copies of the newsletter on the Northern Line. They went down well! **Dave Plummer, PCS**

What a day. I cannot begin to tell you how I feel right now. This is how you beat fascism, by doing the hard work, proper work. I feel like I could go on forever now. **Richard Edwards**

For so long I've felt like I should do something, but didn't really know what I could do. I feel like I've been empowered now, seeing hundreds of antifascists, of all ages together. I was also quite moved by the etiquette of people being polite and friendly and helpful towards each other when we queued up for food. Just those little things helped make everything so special. A good day out normally drains the finances, this didn't cost me a penny, not even for the excellent curry. **Daniel Oatway**

Great success today – well done to you, Sam and the team. **Arpita Dutt, Vice Chair Hackney Unites, Chair London Anti-Racist Alliance**



50 - 52
TRANSPORT HOUSE
46 - 48

HOPE not hate in action

The national weekend of action saw big turnouts in all our key areas of the country. With the election campaign finally under way hundreds of people, many of whom had never done any campaigning for us before, were inspired to turn out for our regional days of action.
Here are some reports from the campaign events across the country.

STOKE-ON-TRENT

Sarah Whitaker

We held activities on consecutive weekends in Stoke-on-Trent during which 20,000 newspapers were delivered.

The first weekend saw the HOPE not hate staff, supported by activists from Sandwell, Bradford and Burnley, distribute material in three wards in Stoke South. In fact, we did so many on the Friday that we sent most people off to Amber Valley on Saturday to help there.

At the second event, on 17 April, over 50 people delivered 8,000 newspapers in Stoke-on-Trent Central. Over half of them were local people.

Everyone was really fired up to see so many people out and we are already looking forward to the big mobilisation on Saturday 1 May.

MORLEY

Paul Meszaros

We had 94 people out in Morley and Outwood for what was a really great day's campaigning. We put out 25,000 newspapers in the constituency being contested for the BNP by Chris Beverley.

With the unions focused on helping Labour in the general election we had been worried that the turnout would be low. We were wrong to be concerned. The vast majority of those who attended were totally new to us and had come from across the country to help.

The weather was great and many expressed an interest in getting involved in HOPE not hate locally.

BURNLEY

Jason Hunter

Thirty-five people put out 14,000 newspapers in Burnley. It was our biggest single day of action and we were supported by people from Preston, Manchester and Blackburn.

We did four wards, including Hapton-with-Park, where the BNP has all three councillors, one of whom is up for election this year.

We have just 6,000 newspapers left, which will go out over the next week.

HOPE not hate staff relax after campaigning in Stoke-on-Trent

BISHOP AUCKLAND

Mike Hartman – TWAFA

Around 30 people took part in the Spennymoor event and the vast majority of the town received the HOPE not hate tabloid through their letterboxes.

The BNP was present close to the town hall. Adam Walker photographed some people including a woman who pointed out that he was not permitted to photograph her daughter without parental permission. The police were summoned but Walker denied he had a camera and when police had a look through his car it had mysteriously disappeared.

Both the Walker brothers, Peter Molloy, Michael Stewart and Ralph Musgrave were present, five of the six Durham BNP PPCs. I thought the fascists looked demoralised and dejected and weren't doing much business with the public.

I think they vented their frustration in Bishop Auckland.

Our County Durham HOPE not hate organiser agreed: The BNP are not getting a positive response here at the moment. It is clear that people are turning against them and that is down to the fantastic work and resources that organisations such as Searchlight and Show Racism the Red Card provide to give local people the confidence to go out and fight the BNP.

AMBER VALLEY (AVCARF)

Amber Valley Campaign Against Racism and Fascism (AVCARF) held a successful day of action in Heanor in partnership with HOPE not hate. Our day was supported by 32 volunteers of all ages, from the local area and further afield. We successfully delivered the HOPE not hate papers and our local AVCARF leaflets to 4,000 properties in one session – a tremendous accomplishment!

We were fortunate to have good weather on our side, but unfortunately we encountered some unwelcome interest from BNP supporters. The police were visible and helpful in their response.

SCOTLAND

Teams of leafleters were out in the centre of Glasgow North West, which is being contested for the BNP by Scott McLean. More leafleting took place in West Aberdeenshire, where Scottish BNP organiser Gary Raikes is standing, and Inverness, while the FBU leafleted in Dundee.

Logan's run

By Gerry Gable

SOONER OR LATER anyone in the British National Party who has any sense and decency will leave. In January the party lost one of its most effective councillors, Alby Walker in Stoke-on-Trent, after he got fed up with the nazis and Holocaust deniers in the party. He was soon followed by his wife, who was also a BNP councillor. Then in March Mark Logan, one of the party's very few effective councillors, left because of the BNP's racism.

Logan's decision to go independent was no real surprise. Ever since he was elected to Havering council in the Gooshays ward by-election two years ago it was apparent that he was a misfit in the fascist and racist BNP.

He was one of a number of small business people recruited into the BNP over the past five years to give the party a cleaner, more respectable image, many of whom have realised their mistake and moved on.

The loss of Logan, a local rebel and one-time Conservative councillor, has wider implications for the BNP, which hopes to get another councillor elected in Gooshays. Firstly, Logan was not prepared to go quietly and has spoken out about the BNP's racism. Secondly, with his expertise in dealing with housing cases, Logan was the main prop for the 12 useless BNP councillors in neighbouring Barking and Dagenham, doing most of their housing casework for them.

Logan's attitude was suspect, from the BNP's point of view, soon after he was elected, when he insisted on taking up cases for black and Asian residents as well as whites. And unique in the BNP, he never drew his councillor's allowance.

He carried out some valuable work for local people rebuilding a rundown PDSA office with the help of his family and neighbours. He raised money locally for this as well as for youth and sports projects.

The local BNP organiser Jason Douglas, a convicted football hooligan, must have seen Logan as not, in the words of Margaret Thatcher, "one of us". Logan did not hate anybody and argued against the growing thuggish element in the BNP's east London and Essex branches.

Mick Braun (right) is an outright racist but that did not stop Nick Griffin, the BNP leader, greeting him warmly

A major turning point for him was a joint Redbridge and Havering BNP branch meeting at which Julian Leppert, the sole BNP councillor on Redbridge council, voiced not for the first time his disdain for victims of national disasters. In a discussion about giving aid to children in Haiti, Leppert said: "why should we be helping the people in Haiti, anyway there is plenty of food lying around, for cannibalism is still rife out there".

Another bone of contention was that, despite the BNP constantly condemning benefit cheats, a local BNP member worked as a builder on home extensions while drawing disability benefits.

The final straw was a confrontation with Mick Braun, whom Logan described as "an out-and-out complete and utter racist" and a "loose cannon".

After one party meeting when Logan, who receives daily dialysis while waiting for a kidney transplant, refused to shake Braun's hand because he was a racist thug, Braun phoned him to say, "I hope you die you f***ing c**t, I hope your kidney fails".

Although Douglas claimed he would sort things out, he appointed Braun as a council candidate in Heaton ward. He then tried to pressurise Logan to put in his nomination papers for re-election as a BNP councillor in Gooshays. Instead Logan resigned from the BNP and is now standing as an independent residents' group candidate in another ward. The BNP was unable to replace him as its parliamentary candidate in Upminster.

Logan is not the first and will certainly not be the last small businessman in the BNP to approach Searchlight for advice and support.

Those who like Logan have some self respect and honesty will wish to leave the BNP before it collapses under a series of scandals and police investigations. Events in Havering have shown that, as *Searchlight* has always said, the BNP is more like the Mafia than a political party. ◄

Election news in brief

London campaign launch

THE BNP'S LONDON region chose the forecourt of the UK Border Agency's headquarters in south London to present its candidates for the general and local elections. Bob Bailey, the party's London organiser, told a group of around 40 candidates that they were there to put immigration on the agenda.

However the BNP's most prominent candidate was absent. Questioned on the whereabouts of Nick Griffin, the BNP leader who is hoping to become the MP for Barking, Bailey replied, "You will have to ask him". It was hardly the response one would expect from a party that wishes to be taken seriously.

People in Barking have been surprised at how little time Griffin has spent in the constituency. Griffin, who is an MEP for the North West, has admitted it is difficult "juggling between my MEP responsibilities and leading a full bore electoral campaign in over three hundred seats right across the country", and that's not to mention his personal campaign in Barking.

The fact that he receives an attendance allowance of around £260 for each day he spends on official European parliamentary business has surely not influenced his diary.

MISSING!

from Barking

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of NICK GRIFFIN please contact Searchlight

BNP organiser's home is funded by Germany taxpayers

THE LONDON organiser of the BNP is married to a German diplomat and benefits from accommodation and allowances provided by German taxpayers.

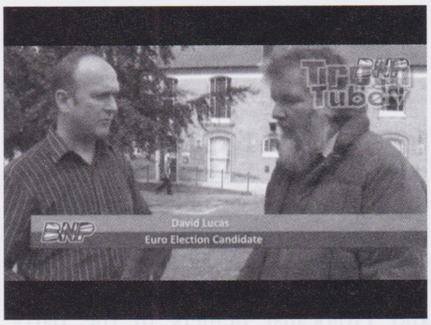
Bob Bailey, who is also leader of the BNP group on Barking and Dagenham council, married Martina Borgfeldt in Australia in 1999 after meeting her while serving in the Royal Marines in Africa. The Diplomatic List shows she is an "assistant attaché" at the German embassy in London.

Bailey, who is hoping to be re-elected as a councillor, gives an address in Barking and Dagenham, but lives in embassy-provided accommodation in west London. Council candidates have to live or work in the same borough.

One source close to the embassy said that Mr Bailey had never told his wife that he was a BNP leader and she found out when confronted recently by her superiors.

Contacted by *The Sunday Telegraph*, Bailey refused to deny this, or his marriage to Mrs Borgfeldt, or that he lived with her in a home paid for by the German embassy, though he insisted he did live in Barking.

Former BNP candidate on explosives charge



DAVID LUCAS, who appeared on the BNP's East of England list in the 2009 European election, has pleaded guilty to possession of an explosive substance without an explosives licence. He faces trial at Ipswich Crown Court later this year on further charges of possessing an explosive substance in suspicious circumstances and possessing a prohibited weapon.

When Lucas was arrested Simon Darby, the deputy BNP leader, commented: "I think the police have got it in for him. I would imagine that it is to do with his capacity as an agricultural rural chap. It is just one of the many things that ordinary rural people have to deal with when you have got a politically motivated police force." The BNP also protested outside the local police station in his support.

Lucas achieved notoriety after claiming that he manufactured and sold gallows to a range of countries with poor human rights records. The claims were a figment of his imagination, dreamed up to draw attention to his pro-death penalty views.

Illiterate BNP

"The British National Party exists to secure a future for the indigenous peoples of Great Britian". Yes, the BNP, which styles itself as Britain's premier patriotic party, spelled Britain incorrectly on its Twitter site. As the London *Metro* noted, this was not the most earth shatteringly important story but certainly "snigger-worthy".

To be fair, the UK Independence Party made the same mistake when its candidate launched his campaign for Barking earlier this year. The BNP was quick to deride him, but seems to have gone quiet about its own gaffe.

Candidate is violent, hate-filled bigot

The BNP's general election candidate for Carshalton and Wallington has again been exposed as a hate-filled, violent bigot. Charlotte Lewis showed her contempt for Muslims when she smoked, drank alcopops and revealed her underwear while wearing a burka at a Halloween party.

Lewis, who is also seeking election to Croydon council, uses her Facebook page to call for violence against "animal abusers" and post hate-filled racist rants about "pakis". In 2001 Lewis served a six-month prison sentence for sending death threats to staff of Huntingdon Life Sciences.

Lewis joined a Facebook group dedicated to tracking down the home address of a teenager convicted of harming a cat, declaring, "I hope people turn up in the middle of the night & throw bricks through her windows – frighten the life out of her! … I hope she gets cancer."

In February 2009 Lewis lost a Croydon by-election when her violent animal rights background was revealed. In 2006 she was questioned by police over possible election fraud after giving a false address to stand for a local election.

Liverpool BNP ignores local people

LIVERPOOL BNP has only managed to scrape together eight candidates compared to the 12 it fielded in 2008. Three of these are from the same family, living at the same address, report Liverpool anti-fascists.

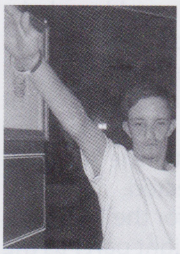
The BNP's appeal on Merseyside is so limited that its supporters prefer to travel to London to canvass for the BNP in Barking. They were responding to a commandment from Nick Griffin, the BNP chairman, that regional party activists join his days of action in the borough because "only" there does the party stand a chance of winning.

Obedient to the last, Liverpool BNP activists have heeded their master's voice and appear to have put their own campaign on the backburner. So much for local people first.

Blackburn BNP forgets party name

VOTERS IN BLACKBURN might have trouble spotting the BNP candidates on their local election ballot papers this year. Robin Evans, the racist clown who runs Blackburn BNP, was so busy adding the party's campaigning slogans to the candidates' nomination papers that he forgot to one crucial thing – the name of his party.

BNP expels candidate



The BNP has expelled a candidate in Thurrock after the anti-BNP group Nothing British reproduced a picture of him giving a Nazi salute. Mark Onions had posted the photograph on the internet himself. When Nothing British challenged the BNP to sack him the party uncharacteristically did so immediately.

In an attempt to allay the embarrassment, the BNP's Thurrock organiser, Emma Colgate, claimed that Onions, or O'Nion as he appears on his nomination form, was a "UKIP mole" planted to discredit the BNP, conveniently leaning on the fact that his aunt was a UK Independence Party candidate.

The BNP was unable to remove Onions from the ballot in Orsett ward as the deadline for nominations had closed.

If the BNP really found it unacceptable for its candidates to give Nazi salutes, it would have had to dismiss another Thurrock council candidate, Derek Beackon, who is standing in Chadwell St Mary. Photos of Beackon, the party's very first councillor in 1993, giving the straight-arm salute do not appear to have impeded his selection.

BNP candidate continues to bury head in the sand

A JUDGE has branded as "scandalous" the behaviour of Mark Walker, the BNP's Sedgefield parliamentary candidate. Walker was suspended as a technology teacher at Sunnydale Community College in Shildon in 2007 amid claims that he sent inappropriate emails to a 16-year-old former pupil and watched pornography on his laptop at work. No illegal content was found on Mr Walker's laptop.

Walker was eventually sacked in 2008 as a result of his sickness record but an employment tribunal decision leaked to *The Northern Echo* reveals that he would have been sacked anyway.

In October 2007 the child protection officer at Durham County Council asked the NSPCC as an independent child protection agency to make inquiries, which led ultimately to Walker's dismissal on the grounds of sickness. Walker appealed but the employment tribunal threw out his unfair dismissal claim.

Judge Andrew Buchanan said Mr Walker's illness was triggered by his own actions. "If he had not acted in the way that he did towards that former pupil, he would not have had reason to be stressed and anxious and he would not have become ill."

He said that joining a demonstration staged outside the school to support him made Walker eligible for dismissal. Speaking about the demonstration, held on an induction day for new pupils, Judge Buchanan said: "The claimant's conduct during the time of his suspension was, frankly, scandalous.

"For a teacher to be associated with a rowdy demonstration at the school gates on a day when pupils new to the school were being inducted demonstrates a failure to observe professional standards which this tribunal finds breathtaking."

Despite the judge finding that Walker's membership of the BNP had nothing whatsoever to do with the case, Walker claimed his dismissal was a "hatchet job" and claimed that the leak of the tribunal decision was aimed at derailing his chances of victory on 6 May. The BNP continues to give Walker its full support.

International

HUNGARY

Hungary stumbles towards ethnic dictatorship

From our correspondent Janosz Malterik in Budapest

HUNGARIAN DEMOCRACY could face meltdown after the second round of the parliamentary election on 25 April. As we go to press, the opposition right-wing conservative Fidesz party looks set to win a two thirds majority, while the extreme-right Jobbik, which had no seats in the national parliament, polled 16.7%, a strong third behind the Socialists on 19.3%.

Fidesz, which won 52.8% of the first round votes on 11 April, and the Jobbik fascists could together end up with 75% or more, a frightening prospect and an unprecedented right-wing advance amounting to a political earthquake that would shake democracy to its foundations.

However, fears that Nick Griffin's Hungarian nazi allies in Jobbik might emerge as the second strongest party failed to materialise after the Socialists fared better than expected.

The strong support for the far right – Fidesz is not a centre-right party as the media continually describe it – in free elections leads to the conclusion that, having thrown off communist rule a mere 20 years ago, a majority of Hungarians actually want to install a new form of dictatorship.

The far right has worked long and hard for this result since the 2002 general election, when Fidesz lost to a Socialist-Liberal coalition. Since then, the racial nationalist "resistance" has organised in so-called Citizens' Circles in response to an appeal from the opposition leader Viktor Orbán. From initially isolated local groups, active networking has brought about a counter-cultural mass movement that functions as an anti-democratic extra-parliamentary opposition.

Tamás Fritz, the scientific director of Budapest's controversial House of Terror museum, which commemorates the fascist and communist dictatorships, and self-styled "independent" political theorist, recently became the unofficial spokesman of the Citizens' Circles. He speaks openly about rising anti-Magyarism and "increasing gypsy crime".

The Citizens' Circles see themselves as a civilian resistance against an administration that uses "Bolshevik methods". Their main objective is to wipe out the "parasite government", in the words of the Fidesz MP Ildikó Bíró at a national meeting of Citizens' Circles last year.

Fidesz has resorted to abundant use of the clapped-out antisemitic stereotypes of "Jewish Bolshevism" and "Jewish communism" since it turned to open nationalism. The political "Jews", "aliens" and "national traitors" of today, however, are – apart from Hungary's 100,000 Jews of course – the Socialists, "the successors to the communists", as Orbán never ceases to remind people. László Balázs Piri, the vice-president of the Committee for Historical Justice and ideas man at the House of Terror, told Hír TV, which is close to Fidesz, six months ago that the left were the

BNP leader Nick Griffin (centre) with his Hungarian nazi Jobbik friends

Hungarian fascism on the march: Jobbik's private army, the Hungarian Guard
Photo: fromflickr by daskar

“degenerate spawn of the Soviets” and “like the most stubborn weeds, not easily exterminated”.

In the wild-eyed visions of Fidesz and Jobbik, liberals too are enemies of the nation to the extent that, thanks to the relentless hate campaigns of the past 15 years, democratic thinking has almost evaporated.

This was demonstrated at a Hungarian National Day celebration in Budapest on 15 March when a howling mob interrupted a speech by the city's mayor Gábor Demszky with chants of “Jew pig, Jew pig, into the Danube with you”. Demszky, a former Soviet-era dissident and prominent liberal, needed police protection during his speech in which he declared, “We did not fight the socialist dictatorship for it to be replaced with a National Socialist one”.

Such events are causing acute concern. The veteran entertainer and singer János Bródy pointed out, “Hungary did not free itself from fascism but was liberated by the Red Army … and because Hungary never took its future into its own hands, this means history must repeat itself. Only if a society frees itself from fascism can it claim to have mastered this part of its past.”

Bródy, 64, grew up under the former Communist regime in which fighting for freedom was a first principle of resistance. He believes that although Hungarians have gained freedom, they do not know what to do with it and are now on the verge of discarding it.

Outside Hungary people ask whether there is any anti-fascist resistance or trade union response. The problem is that “anti-fascism” was so heavily monopolised by the old Stalinist forces that democratic elements were effectively excluded. In Hungary, as in the other post-communist states, fascism has tended to be defined in pre-war terms as the “openly terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary, most chauvinist and most imperialist element of finance capital”.

This kind of “anti-capitalist” anti-fascism targets western “multinationals” and “globalisation” and crosses paths with the kind of radical right-wing thinking that sees a “Zionist world conspiracy” behind these forces and much else.

The trade unions, which in Soviet bloc days were merely an extended arm of the one-party state, seem to be paralysed. The 8,000-strong police trade union, TMRSZ, openly supports Jobbik and its president, Dr Judit Szima, only narrowly missed getting elected to the European parliament as number four on Jobbik's list.

Jobbik and its supporters have increasingly attacked Fidesz over the past few months, labelling it “Zsidesz”, a play of words on *zsidó*, Hungarian for Jew. Jobbik has accused Orbán of being a “cowardly traitor” and no longer “national” enough to represent Magyar values and aims. The fact that Jobbik's nazi ideas are shared by a large section of the Fidesz constituency shows the way the wind is blowing.

The result is that Hungary has become the most openly racist and dangerous country in central and western Europe. Last year nine Roma people were killed and, in Budapest where thousands of fascist posters festoon the walls and cars sport antisemitic bumper stickers, Jews are attacked in broad daylight.

At the beginning of April, Rabbi Shamuel Raskin and 50 guests were celebrating Passover when two rocks crashed through the double-glazed windows of his Budapest home. The guests were later advised by a policeman that it was not wise to go out wearing a skull cap in Budapest. ◄

ITALY

Racism meets fascism with predictable results

By Alfio Bernabei

THE NORTHERN LEAGUE and Silvio Berlusconi's People of Freedom party (PdL) strengthened their hold on the country in the regional and municipal elections, which ended last month with the second round.

In spite of scandals, alleged links with the Mafia and multiple trials for financial corruption, the television magnate who gave political power and legitimacy to xenophobes and fascists way back in 1994 emerged not only as the victor in terms of votes but, implicitly, as the choice of the majority of Italians as a model of personal and political conduct for a new generation – a cultural revolution that is refashioning fascism.

On the surface the electoral campaign was dull and uneventful, virtually without discussion of the parties' political manifestos. The main debate centred on whether the decision temporarily to suspend television chat shows was right or wrong: the media debating the media. In the shadow of this diversion, racists and fascists were freely scattering their messages, wholly unchallenged by the opposition parties.

Two examples.

Terzano, a small town of 5,000 inhabitants in Lombardy, northern Italy's richest region. It is eight o'clock on a Saturday evening two weeks before the election. Darkness is falling. The Northern League has gathered a few hundred militants at the local sports club. Their target is a cultural centre used by Muslims.

According to one of the organisers of the demonstration some people have been seen praying "even five times a day"; local Catholic girls wishing to attend the oratory have had to pass what seems to have become a mosque. This is intolerable. Torches are lit – the visual trademark of Northern League demonstrations against immigrants, against Islam. If it evokes the Ku Klux Klan who cares? The episode is deemed too ordinary to deserve a report in the national press.

But the Northern League knows best. Replicate this type of demonstration wherever you can. Votes will pour in. And see who is on the march in Terzano to lend their support: the Deputy President of the Italian Senate, two MPs and Renzo Bossi, the son of Umberto Bossi, leader of the Northern League and a minister in Berlusconi's government. (Yes, Bossi Junior, the clever one *Searchlight* revealed as the author of a video game based on mouse clicking on boatfuls of immigrants to make them sink, a well known wish among Northern League members.)

The scene of the second example is Nettuno, near Rome. This is where Italy ends, according to the Northern League. After that it's another race of people. People infected with "Moroccan" blood, one of the reasons that Bossi set up his separatist party in the first place.

Again we are in the middle of the election campaign. This is a different type of gathering though. Nazis, here to pay homage to Pio Filippani Ronconi, the Italian SS officer who fought under Hitler in command of the 2nd Battalion Vendetta (Vengeance). The nazis are laying a wreath inscribed, "My honour is called faithfulness". Police? Government condemnation? Media outrage? Zero. Why not? Probably because it is another "ordinary" episode.

After all Berlusconi's Defence Minister, Ignazio La Russa, has done his best to pay homage to the fascist army unit Decima Mas, which sided with Hitler. He is a bit of a thug himself. At a press conference in the middle of the campaign he takes a dislike to someone asking questions. He punches the man and throws him out. Heard this before? Perhaps in connection with the British National Party? Common territory.

Driven by myriad episodes like the two just described, the wave of racism descending from the North meets the wave of neofascism supported at government level in a kind of overlapping pincer movement with predictable results.

The Northern League has nearly doubled its vote since 2005, reaching a national average of 12.3%. It now controls Piedmont, the working-class stronghold, one of the key industrial regions and home to the Fiat motor company. It has advanced dramatically into the so-called Red Belt of central Italy, from 4.8% to 13.6% in Emilia-Romagna and from 1.3% to 6.5% in Tuscany. With the PdL faring much better than expected at 26.8%, the government has secured stability until the next general election, although a reported threat by Gianfranco Fini, the Speaker of the Lower House and co-founder with Berlusconi of the PdL to split the party could change that.

Defence Minister Ignazio La Russa ejects a journalist who asked an awkward question

The far-right parties, La Destra and Forza Nuova, conceded total failure with 0.5-1.0% of the national vote. When the poll booths open, voters who have racist or fascist sympathies turn to parties in government that meet their expectations and are able to put forward legislation. In such good hands some important decisions are taken without even the need to pass new laws. The history of the wartime Italian Resistance led by the *partigiani* has suddenly disappeared from the secondary school curriculum. Away with it. Obliterated.

In a letter to the Turin newspaper *La Stampa* an old partigiano writes, "I'm beginning to wonder why I bothered to risk my life when I joined in the fight against the fascists". "I know how you feel," replies one reader, "but please don't despair". ◄

DENMARK

Populist party role leads to growing Islamophobia

From Anne Jessen for *Demos* and Antifa-Net in Copenhagen

DF leader Pia Kjærsgaard attends an anti-Islam conference in Copenhagen

THE RIGHT-WING POPULIST Danish People's Party (DF) enjoys influence disproportionate to its 14% support in the 2007 election and uses it to pursue its obsession with immigrants and Islam.

Since 2001 Denmark's liberal-conservative government has depended on the votes of the Islamophobic party, which calls for the removal of "unwanted immigrants". The financial and ecological crises, increased unemployment, problems in the health service and the Afghanistan and Iraq wars all take second place for the DF.

This is because since the so-called "cartoons controversy" of 2005, political debate has raged around "Danish values", freedom of opinion and the battle against terrorism and Islam, fuelled by the DF and the gutter press and eagerly followed by the political mainstream, including the Social Democrats.

Right-wing populism is, however, no longer a DF monopoly, as manifested by recent debate around the wearing of the burka.

A Conservative proposal last August to outlaw the burka in public was rejected as unlawful. Instead, a parliamentary working group was assigned to find out how many women in Denmark wore the burka. The result was three with a further 200 wearing the niqab. As a result, a previously non-existent issue was elevated into a "problem" and turned into another theme in the debate about Islam. This is nothing new. In recent years, politicians and the media have delved into all sorts of issues to seek negative links with Islam.

The tense atmosphere exploded at the turn of the year when a Somali man used an axe to try to kill Kurt Westergaard, the cartoonist whose caricature of the prophet Muhammad ignited international uproar. Because of the toxic political atmosphere, the would-be assassin is being threatened with terrorism charges that carry harsher penalties than attempted murder and could be deported. And since the attack on Westergaard, Somalis, even their children, have been stigmatised and labelled impossible to integrate, workshy and terrorists.

Similarly, power struggles between criminal gangs of Hell's Angels and people of Palestinian, Turkish and Pakistani origin for control over the thriving illegal drugs trade are described as "ethnic" conflicts rather than the criminal conflicts they really are. The same "ethnicisation" appears in discussions of social problems in some deprived areas that are routinely labelled ghettos and in debates about sexual equality.

Political debate has intensified and reached new depths of paranoia in Denmark since the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001. DF politicians especially refuse to differentiate between Islam as a world religion and Islamism as a fundamentalist political ideology.

Kristian Thulesen Dahl, one of the DF's leading strategists, has freely admitted that he is anti-Muslim. His attitude personifies his party's racist outlook. It also gives the green light to the lunatic claims of Lars Hedegaard, a fellow DF member and founder of the so-called Free Press Association, that girls and young women in Muslim families are systematically raped by their fathers and uncles.

It is a measure of how low the DF will sink that, instead of denouncing this rubbish, DF MP Jesper Langballe has tried to outbid Hedegaard with the lie that Muslim fathers and uncles not only rape but also kill the girls. Pia Kjærsgaard, leader of the DF, admitted that such outbursts could harm her party but has offered no apology for them.

The DF remains the party with the clearest anti-Muslim policy and has assiduously dragged its prejudices into the parliamentary arena. Compared with the DF, smaller non-parliamentary groups such as Stop the Islamisation of Denmark, Free Denmark, Women for Freedom, the Free Press brigade and extreme-right groups are insignificant. It is the DF that exercises direct influence on immigration and citizenship laws, a situation that the liberal-conservative coalition allows in order to remain in power.

As a result Denmark's immigration laws are among the strictest in Europe with family reunions made more difficult, forced expulsions of asylum seekers, the refusal of refugees from Muslim countries and increasingly harsh interpretations of residence and citizenship rules. For the DF, however, this is just a start. If it gets its way, Denmark will move towards a repatriation policy to "cleanse" the country of its "unwanted" immigrants. ◄

STATESIDE

Tea Parties, militias and r

by Leonard Zeskind and Devin Burghart for IREHR and Antifa Net

AFTER A year of fierce policy debate, Republican Party stonewalling and Tea Party vitriol, the United States House of Representatives passed the legislation on 21 March that days later let President Obama sign a new comprehensive health care reform law.

The day before, on Saturday 20 March, Tea Partiers rallied on Capitol Hill in a last ditch attempt to stop the legislation. In a set of racist incidents that is still being discussed, protesters clearly yelled out "n****r" at several members of the Black Congressional Caucus, including the civil rights movement veteran John Lewis of Georgia, as they tried to walk from their offices to the legislative hall. One of the congressmen, Emanuel Cleaver from Missouri, was spat upon in the frenzy.

As if to compound the ignominy brought upon their cause, Tea Partiers claimed that nothing untoward had happened and that the Democratic congressmen were making the whole thing up. "Even a racist is media-savvy enough not to yell the n-word," one leader avowed – ratifying the notion that Tea Party racists are trying to keep their real beliefs hidden out of sight. Rep. Michele Bachmann, a Republican from Minnesota who carries a lot of water for the Tea Partiers, seconded the denial, further disgracing herself in the process.

On the day of the House healthcare vote, Charles Alan Wilson of Selah, Washington, made a series of vicious threats on the life of Senator Patricia Murray, according to an indictment issued against Wilson. Press reports highlighted Wilson's attendance at Tea Party protests in that state. During the same period, the FBI arrested Gregory Giusti in California for harassing Rep. Nancy Pelosi. Pelosi is the Speaker of the House and third in the line of succession to the presidency should disaster strike the president and vice president. In related incidents, bricks were thrown through the windows of Democratic Party offices in Wichita, Kansas and elsewhere.

Re-enter the Militia

On 23 March, nine members of the Hutaree Militia in Michigan were charged with seditious conspiracy after allegedly plotting to kill a policeman and then bomb his funeral procession. A self-described "Christian" group, the Hutarees have been among the best armed and fervid of post-millennium militias.

In a second incident, reported on 2 April, a group calling itself Guardians of the Free Republics sent letters to 30 state governors demanding they resign or be "forcibly removed". The ideology of that Texas-based organisation is similar to that of the Posse Comitatus-inspired sovereigns of years past: the so-called common law is the actual law of the land and statutes passed by congress and signed by the president are unconstitutional.

In Michigan, the Southeast Michigan Volunteer Militia – not to be confused with the Hutaree group – held its own "Open Carry Family Picnic and Tea Party" on 10 April. The term "open carry" refers to the fact that people attending the picnic openly carried their weapons: side arms in holsters and rifles with slings. About one hundred people attended this event, which was held in a recreation area owned by the Department of Natural Resources boasting a lake, wildlife, cabins and an open-to-the-public shooting range. By calling the event a "Tea Party", this militia group purposefully identified itself with the burgeoning Tea Party movement, which has reshaped American politics during the last year.

As if to confirm this growing convergence between the militia types and elements of the Tea Party movement, an Oklahoma Tea Partier, Al Gerhart, called on legislators to pass a law creating a militia to protect the state's "sovereignty" from the federal government. Gerhart founded the "Oklahoma Constitutional Alliance" to unify Tea Party groups, and at least one state Senator who is courting Tea Partiers has signalled support for the idea. Others, remembering the bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building 15 years ago, have rejected it. It is unlikely to pass.

Who are the Tea Partiers

Not all Tea Partiers are militiamen, however. A composite view of the movement has emerged as opinion pollsters have started to ask questions. The data show that approximately 13% of voters describe themselves as part of the Tea Party movement; that would be over 19 million adults. A smaller number, approximately 5%, tell pollsters that they have given money to or attended a Tea Party protest. The hard core of that movement – those signed up as members on the various Tea Party websites – lies within those two larger concentric circles.

At present there are five major Tea

ace in public policy debate

erfac
& truth

Racist and antisemitic links did not stop the band Pokerface headlining a Tea Party rally

Party factions. Tea Party Nation, headed by Judson Phillips, a Nashville attorney, and his wife Sherry, is the most visible. It has created a home for the so-called "birthers" within the Tea Party movement (those who deny Barack Obama is a natural born American), forging an alliance with one of the leading birther-promoting websites. The group has also been building bridges to Christian nationalists. Tea Party Patriots, registered in Georgia to a spokesperson with close ties to GOP (Republican Party) consulting firms, is the largest and most grass roots of the networks.

The 1776 Tea Party (more popularly called TeaParty.org) is best known for the group's president, Dale Robertson, holding a sign that called taxpayers "niggars", and for fundraising email depicting President Obama as a pimp. This group is headquartered in the Houston area.

FreedomWorks Tea Party was created as a vehicle for Dick Armey's Washington DC group, FreedomWorks, and this organisation has been primarily a vehicle to funnel beltway funds to local groups.

ResistNet is the official social network of the Iowa-based group Grassfire Nation. This is a division of Grassroots Action, a privately-owned internet activism services organisation. ResistNet members have organised many local Tea Party protests and the faction website includes local Tea Party groups.

Tea Party Express was created by the California-based Our Country Deserves Better PAC (political action committee) and is best known for conducting cross-country Tea Party bus tours.

A small percentage of Tea Partiers say they are Democrats or voted for Obama. The rest are almost evenly divided between Republicans and independents – a term used to describe voters not registered with either of the two major parties. About 50% are from small towns and rural areas, according to pollsters. Suburbanites constitute the overwhelming majority of the non-rural Tea-sters. These are solid middle-class Americans, much more likely to hold a sign reading "Honk if I am paying your mortgage" than to march with a placard asking for jobs. According to a CNN poll, 66% of Tea Party activists have incomes higher than US$50,000 a year and a third report making over US$75,000.

The Tea-sters' attitudes on race reflect an all-white movement peppered with Confederate battle flags and calls for secession, dominated by a white-flight suburban ethic. Only 18% think that black people are "very hardworking", according to a poll conducted by the University of Washington, while 68% said that "if blacks worked harder they would be just as well off as whites". The non-Tea Party public is more enlightened as to the actual dynamics of racial justice in America – but not by margins large enough to ensure the much-vaunted, but yet unachieved "post-racial" society. Indeed, racists and bigots have been part of the Tea Party mix since the beginning.

Council of Conservative Citizens activists, white nationalists descended from the Jim Crow era white Citizens Councils, have been organising Tea Party protests in Mississippi and on the west coast of Florida. Don Black's Stormfront website established a Tea Party discussion forum so as to encourage national socialist types to get involved in the new white movement. And then there is Paul Topete and the band Pokerface.

As documented on the website ladylibertyslamp.wordpress.com, Topete has a long history of antisemitism. Pokerface played for a conference of Willis Carto's *America Free Press*, a substitute publication for the now-defunct *Spotlight*; and Topete has graced the internet radio microphone of Michael Collins Piper, a reporter who moved from *Spotlight* over to the *Free Press*. According to Piper, Topete has been vilified because he has defended the rights of Holocaust deniers such as David Irving. But Topete is much clearer in his own words, claiming that, "the Rothschilds set up the Illuminati in 1776 to subvert the Christian basis of Western Civilisation".

The views of Pokerface were sufficiently well known for the Ron Paul campaign to cancel an appearance by the band in 2008. But a year later, on 3 July 2009, the band headlined a Tea Party rally in Washington DC. And according to ladylibertyslamp.wordpress.com, band members provided security for the event and helped with its general logistics. Bigoted enough to be thrown off the venue of the John Birch Society darling Ron Paul, but good enough for the Tea Parties.

As *Searchlight* goes to press, a new round of Tea Party protests is in the offing. ◄

RUSSIA Exploding hatred

Xenophobic sentiment has grown sharply following the tragedy on the Moscow Metro at the end of March, reports Svetlana Kononova for Russia Profile.org in Moscow

RUSSIA HAS RECENTLY banned Adolf Hitler's autobiographical work *Mein Kampf*, joining a number of countries where the "Nazi Bible" is forbidden. State prosecutors said that a book that describes the concept of "Lebensraum" and paints the Slavic people as inferior beings has "a militaristic outlook and justifies discrimination and destruction of non-Aryan races, reflecting ideas which, when implemented, started the Second World War". Experts suggest that the decision to add the book to the federal list of extremist materials signifies the Russian government's wish to illustrate the war it is waging against far-right movements. But can this war be won, especially after the Moscow Metro bombings?

"Generally speaking, publishing and disseminating the works of all Nazi leaders was prohibited in Russia in the summer of 2002, after a law against extremist activity was passed," said Galina Kozhevnikova, a spokesperson at the SOVA Centre, which tracks neo-nazi and xenophobic violence. "But this law was never explained to society. Therefore, many thought that there is nothing illegal about reading Nazi books." The court's recent decision seems to be a public relations stunt performed on the eve of Victory Day (9 May), Kozhevnikova believes.

Maxim Stepanov, an anti-fascist and spokesperson for the Antifa.ru website, created to promote ideological opposition to fascism in Russia, agrees. "The ban on *Mein Kampf* reflects the authorities' zealous efforts to demonstrate that they are fighting against the ultra-right," he said. "It is very important now. Violent incidents and terrorist acts committed by neo-nazis, such as the assassinations of the civil rights lawyer Stanislav Markelov and the journalist Anastasia Baburova, have captured the attention of high-ranking officials. The government realised that there is a casual attitude towards neo-nazis in the country."

Experts predict further legislative "tightening of the screws" in the area of extremism. However, it is hard to believe that a ban on Hitler's book will have a significant impact on the xenophobia that is spreading in Russian society. *Mein Kampf* was written in the mid-1920s and is far from Russia's present reality. It cannot be considered a guide for action but regardless of that the book remains available on the internet despite the ban. "Any kind of ban whips up interest in the book," wrote a blogger nicknamed Serge Nickel. "Some people may start paying attention to Hitler's ideas after the ban on *Mein Kampf* was announced."

Another blogger, Arseny Smolyak, wrote that he does not see any difference between *Mein Kampf* and the works of Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin. "Fascist aesthetics have been described in many books and films. The aesthetics attract some youngsters much more than any fundamental historical work. They shave their heads and raise their hands in Nazi salutes

AUSTRIA Skinhead denounces Strache and police

From Martin Jordan for UNITED in Vienna

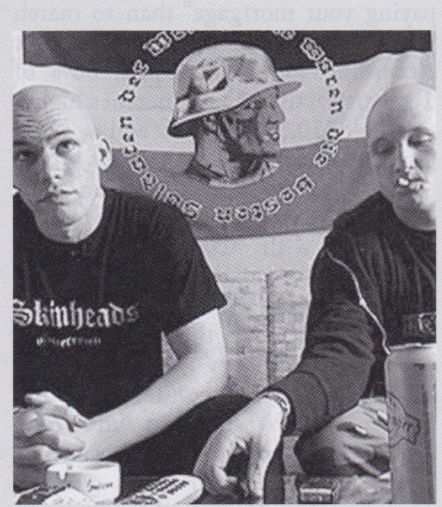
MORE THAN 3,000 people attended a "sea of candles" demonstration against the Freedom Party (FPÖ) presidential candidate Barbara Rosenkranz in Vienna at the end of March.

Rosenkranz has come under fire in the past for failing to disown Austria's Nazi past and questioning the existence of Nazi gas chambers. In a move to deflect criticism, she recently said she had never doubted the existence of gas chambers. However her statement came only two days after Hans Dichand, publisher of the popular *Kronen Zeitung*, which supports her campaign, appealed to her to make it. Ariel Muzicant, head of the Austrian Jewish Community, and the television entertainer Alfons Haider attended the Vienna protest, which was organised by an anti-Rosenkranz Facebook group.

Political commentators say the airing of Rosenkranz's outrageous views has harmed the FPÖ's prospects. Polls suggest that Rosenkranz will win about 10% of the vote in the election on 25 April, in which she is opposed by President Heinz Fischer and Rudolf Gehring, head of the conservative anti-abortion party The Christians.

Meanwhile, the FPÖ leader Heinz-Christian Strache, who has a history of attracting controversy, is in trouble again after he gave autographs to skinheads at a party campaigning event near Vienna. After he realised that the skinheads were being filmed for a television documentary he started a huge row.

In keeping with his rather strange perception of the world, Strache scents



Philipp the skinhead

Nurtured with hate in the hearts: children at a Russian fascist rally

because of these aesthetics, not because they have read Hitler's book."

Although Nazi literature has been prohibited in Russia since 2002, statistics show that the level of xenophobia in the country remains high. A poll conducted by the independent Gallup agency found that only 37% of Russians think their city is a safe place for racial or ethnic minorities to live. This is the second lowest percentage of the more than 70 countries that the Gallup poll encompassed, and the lowest among former Soviet republics.

Data from the SOVA Centre show that at least 71 people were killed and at least 333 were injured in incidents of racist and neo-nazi violence in Russia last year. Racially motivated violent crimes were reported in 40 Russian regions, including Moscow, St Petersburg, Nizhny Novgorod and Sverdlovsk. Most attacks were perpetrated by the ultra right, although a few attacks by nationalists from the Caucasus were reported too. Most victims of xenophobic attacks were people from Central Asia (29 killed and 68 injured) and from the Caucasus (11 killed, 47 injured). In January and February 2010, at least 42 people were victims of racist and neo-nazi attacks, leading to seven deaths.

So why are neo-nazi sentiments so widespread in a country whose population was dubbed "racially inferior" in Hitler's books? Why do the grandchildren of those who defeated fascism show interest in neo-nazi ideas? "The popularisation of Nazi and xenophobic attitudes in society is a result of a collapse in migration policy, the education system and social services in the past few decades," says Stepanov. "We should understand that the modern neo-nazi is from the generation that grew up in the 'new Russia' with ubiquitous corruption, cynicism and popular ideas of personal wealth and power."

While living standards remain low, especially in some of Russia's regions, some Russians will continue looking for "foreign enemies" and redirecting their aggression towards migrants.

Anti-fascists believe that numerous measures are needed to combat neo-nazism in Russia. Firstly, the government should develop civil society, not suppress it. Secondly, the country should be governed by the rule of law. Surveys show that at present most Russians do not trust the authorities and law enforcement agencies. Moreover, social problems such as crime, heavy drinking and drug abuse remain unsolved. Russia has become wealthier in the past few decades, but is on a downward spiral in the social and cultural spheres, anti-fascists believe. Members of Antifa.ru say that the government should not prohibit books but outlaw any far-right organisations and movements that promote neo-nazi ideas.

The recent tragedy on the Moscow Metro has given rise to a wave of xenophobic rage in Russia, and neo-nazis blame the government for not protecting native citizens from Caucasian terrorists. Their ideas may well gain more support after the explosions. "It is very difficult to predict how the situation will develop. We see that the authorities do implement some measures to decrease the level of neo-nazi violence, such as arrests, lawsuits, recognising racial and nationalistic hatred as a motive in crimes, etc," Kozhevnikova said. "However, they do not undertake any strategic steps to prevent Russian society from endorsing xenophobic sentiments. Therefore, the problem will be not solved in the near future, and it may get worse." ◄

■*Reproduced with kind permission of Russia Profile.org*

---

manipulation and conspiracy by the state broadcasting service ORF, while one of the skinheads blames him and the police for the spat.

The ORF documentary in question, *On the right edge*, examines the life and social environment of a Viennese skinhead. Its main character, Philipp, a 19-year-old from the outskirts of Vienna, has only elementary school education, no job and no money and lives in a poor social environment. He blames immigrants for his plight, communicating his bitter anger through his provocative appearance and readiness to use violence. Despite his evident hatred of the "system", he has allowed a camera team to follow him and record his life for some weeks.

The production team was present when Philipp and a friend attended the FPÖ event in Wiener Neustadt on 12 March 2010, incidentally not the young skinhead's first FPÖ event. He and his friends do not fully agree with Strache and the FPÖ, branding them as "too soft", but say they are "the only choice in Austria".

At the FPÖ event, everything was business as usual. Some other skinheads were present, there were young FPÖ stewards in camouflage jackets and appliquéd German flags and, of course, the police to divide the event from chanting anti-fascist demonstrators.

However, once Strache realised that he was being filmed giving autographs to skinheads, he called in the police and claimed loudly that the ORF had paid skinheads – who then allegedly bellowed "Heil Hitler!" – to come to his event.

Although the prosecution authorities took possession of the raw footage and investigated, they found no evidence to support Strache's accusations. Eyewitness accounts are inconsistent. In a public interview, Philipp accused Strache of lying and claimed that the police had forced confessions out of his girlfriend and another skinhead. This prompted the Green Party to press charges against the police on the grounds of alleged illegal cooperation with the FPÖ.

At first sight the affair seems to be much ado about nothing. After all, skinheads and right-wing extremists are present at almost every FPÖ event and nazi-style chanting is likewise nothing new. This is all the more reason why this public farce, characterised by huge dollops of moral outrage on the part of both the FPÖ and ORF, seems very strange.

The FPÖ, meanwhile, sent its "Islam-expert" Werner Neubauer to speak at a so-called anti-minaret conference staged by its German friends, the anti-Islam Pro-NRW party. The far-right parties present at the event in Gelsenkirchen on 26-28 March – the FPÖ, Flemish Interest, the Sweden Democrats, the Platform for Catalonia party and the French Popular New Right – adopted a common resolution against the construction of mosques and minarets. ◄

NETHERLANDS

SS killer jailed for life

From Jeroen Bosch for *Alert!* and Antifa-Net in Utrecht

A DUTCH-GERMAN former SS member was sentenced to life imprisonment in Aachen, Germany, on 23 March after what may be the last war crimes trial from the Second World War.

Heinrich Boere was charged with the murder of three Dutch civilians, Teun de Groot, Frits Bicknese and Frans Kusters, in 1944 during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands in a trial that started at the end of last October.

Boere, who had a Dutch mother and a German father, had been convicted in absentia in Amsterdam in 1949 after he escaped from a prisoner transport and hid for seven years at his mother's home in Maastricht. He then fled to Germany and laid low. In 1983 he was held briefly for investigation, but the German authorities decided he was not a war criminal because his victims lived in the "illegality of the resistance".

The Dutch authorities neither contested nor complained about this decision. Despite some later requests from Dutch Ministers of Justice, the German government never extradited Boere nor was he investigated in Germany. In 1994 Dutch and German anti-fascists demonstrated at Boere's home in Eschweiler, near Aachen, and lobbied for his prosecution.

Media interest was sparked in 2000 after a documentary about the so-called *Silbertanne* murders of Dutch civilians and resistance fighters by the SS Feldmeijer murder commando. The unit was named after Henk Feldmeijer, a propaganda instructor in the Dutch National Socialist Movement (NSB), of which Boere was a member. From then Boere was almost constantly in the media. In October 2006 members of the anti-fascist group Keine Ruhe again picketed his home.

In 2008, the German public prosecutor finally decided to prosecute Boere, who by then was the sixth most wanted Nazi war criminal on the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's list. Boere, who had previously admitted his crimes, tried to stall proceedings by requesting that the charges be dropped because he was unfit to stand trial. His application was dismissed and Boere was brought into court on 28 October in a wheel chair accompanied by two medics.

His two lawyers, Gordon Christiansen and Matthias Rahmlow, argued that under European law Boere could not be convicted twice for the same crimes, but the judge, Gerd Nohl, set aside their objections.

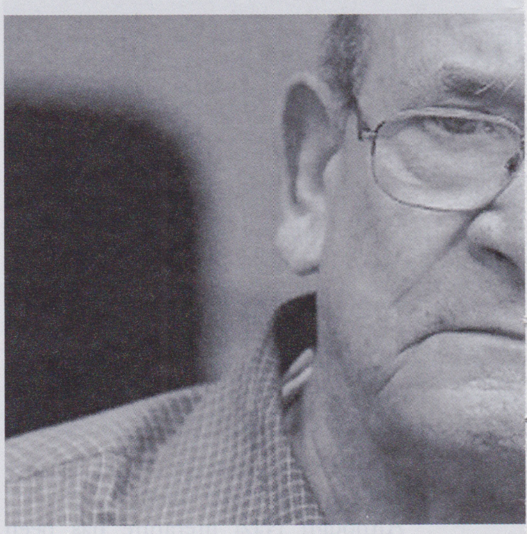
The most important prosecution witness was Jacobus Besteman from Wassenaar. Besteman, a former member of the SS Westland regiment, was convicted in 1949 for his own part in the *Silbertanne* murders and spent 13 years in prison. On the 11th day of the trial on 15 January, Besteman gave evidence by video link. However he was unable to recall being sentenced to death in 1946, being a member of the NSB in 1940 or even what the SS was. Asked whether he had fought with the SS Viking division on the Eastern Front, his memory again failed him but he did comment: "I think there were Dutch there".

Asked by the judge why Bicknese, a pharmacist from Breda, and the mayors of Asten and Someren were murdered, Besteman declared that he had not done it and had never owned a gun. However to the court's surprise Besteman added: "We were dressed in civilian clothes and we entered the shop. I stood next to Boere and suddenly there was a shot and the man in the pharmacy was dead."

Nohl then tried to find out from Besteman about the so-called *Befehlsnotstand*, an important part of Boere's defence, according to which if he had refused to obey orders he would have been sent to a concentration camp or executed. Besteman was unable to shed any light on the matter.

At the end of January, new evidence was presented by Detlef Hartman and Wolfgang Heiermann, representing the families of Boere's victims, who produced information from Dutch archives that placed Boere's life and criminal career in another perspective.

They showed that Boere had lied to the court about his membership of the NSB, his return from the Eastern Front and his ideological ideas. In January 1943, documents revealed that Boere had joined the NSB in January 1943 and the German SS in March 1944. In the same year he undertook weapons training and then, at his own request, police training, following which he was deployed to the SS police unit Landstorm.



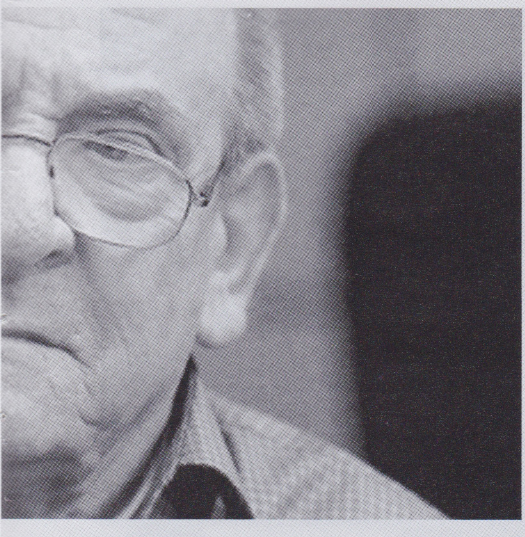
There Boere joined the Feldmeijer commando and was ordered to hunt for Dutch people hiding and helping escaped prisoners, resistance fighters and Allied airmen. One of the unit's first actions was to go to the town of Helden Panningen in the south of the Netherlands, where, claiming they were refugees looking for a place to hide, they attempted to win the trust of the local resistance.

The verbatim record of a hearing in 1946 reports Boere stating: "We told the farmers we could stay but would have to pick up some stuff and would be back in two days. When we gathered enough information we reported our findings at our headquarters in Maastricht."

In the raids that followed on 17 May 1944, Boere and his colleagues led a group of German soldiers who arrested 52 people. At least seven of them died in Dutch or German camps and Boere and his accomplices were each rewarded with 75 guilders.

The new evidence revealed Boere to be a convinced national socialist who committed his crimes with obstinate energy. His promotion to team leader in July 1944, according to the investigation a reward for the murder of Bicknese, contradicts the image of Boere as a simple man and "a mere soldier".

Hartman and Heiermann stated that almost every family in the Limburg countryside contributed to the resistance networks "and it is those people – and not the German authorities with their weakly built cases against Nazis who could not be prosecuted in the end and who had a blind spot for Nazis in the elite – who are answering the demand for justice to this very day."



Convicted at last: Dutch war criminal Heinrich Boere

The families of the victims of the Helden Panningen raids filed a complaint against Boere in Dortmund on 28 January. Ulrich Maass, the German public prosecutor, responded on 19 February saying he would allow some of the evidence but would open and immediately close the Helden Panningen case because it would delay the Aachen trial. His statement has been criticised as characteristic of the same German "justice" that failed to prosecute Boere for 60 years.

In the final stage of the Aachen trial, Boere gave further evidence but claimed to be unable to remember belonging to the NSB or Landwacht or training recruits. On 2 March, Maass called for a life sentence for Boere for the three murders.

In his verdict, delivered on 23 March, Nohl described Boere's deeds as "unprecedented in cowardice and deceit". Boere, he said, "was always upfront, thought of himself as a real man and was always the first to shoot". However Nohl did not refer to the systematic nature of German SS and Wehrmacht war crimes or to the failure of German authorities to prosecute Boere earlier.

Despite this crucial omission, the case is an important one that will, hopefully, encourage the victims of other Nazis still living in Germany to continue their efforts to bring the remaining known war criminals to trial. How much this means even today was illustrated by the words of the son of one of Boere's victims, Teun de Groot, after the trial: "What do I wish for Boere after this conviction? A long and lasting life!" ◄

FRANCE

FN given poll boost in regions

Jean-Yves Camus reports from Paris

MARIE-CHRISTINE
ARNAUTU
POUR
L'ILE-DE-FRANCE
www.fnidf2010.fr
FRONT NATIONAL Elections Régionales 2010
FN

AFTER THE 2007 presidential election, the newly elected president Nicolas Sarkozy announced the death of the right-wing extremist National Front (FN). Regional elections in March have proved Sarkozy's declaration to be premature.

With 11.4% of the vote in the first ballot on 14 March, the FN was able to contest the second round a week later in 12 regions out of 22. It then averaged 17% with higher support in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Nord Pas de Calais, where respectively Jean-Marie Le Pen, the party leader, and his daughter Marine, passed the 20% mark.

The goal of the cash-strapped FN was to improve on its recent results of 10.4% and 4.3% in the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections and 6.4% in last year's European election.

Opinion polls put the FN vote at 8-9%, an underestimate largely because of the low 51% turnout. The FN now has just over 100 regional councillors, compared to 156 in 2004, when it polled 14.7%.

This represents a victory for Le Pen because almost 50 of the councillors elected in 2004 had subsequently defected to splinter groups.

It is significant that 8% of those who voted for Sarkozy in 2007 returned to the extreme right. As usual, FN voters in 2010 were overwhelmingly male (64%) and in the 35 to 49 age group. The FN vote continued to be strong among the working class (19%) and lower middle-class, as well as among the unemployed (16%). However the geography of the FN vote has changed. Today the party is strongest northeast of a line running from Rouen in Normandy to Marseille.

Another point favouring the FN is that 76% of those who voted for Le Pen in 2007 stayed with the party in March despite its candidates being mostly little known. This, plus the fact that 60% of FN voters were motivated by national, rather than local, issues such as law and order, immigration and Sarkozy's style of government, suggests that the FN could poll around 15% in the 2012 presidential election and perhaps more if Sarkozy seeks a second term.

Other far-right parties did badly in March. The Party of France, led by Carl Lang, polled 3.95 % in central France and 3.71 % in Lower Normandy, where it prevented the FN from passing the 10% threshold needed to go through to the second round. The National Republican Movement (MNR) founded by Bruno Mégret, polled 3% in Lorraine, where it ran a common slate with the Popular New Right under the anti-Muslim slogan, "No to minarets". In Franche-Comté, which borders Switzerland, a similar anti-Islam list received 2.46%.

The Identity Bloc, a newcomer to elections, fared worse than predicted. Its offshoot, the Ligue du Midi, received 0.71% in Languedoc, amid much media attention. In Provence, the Ligue du Sud, modelled on the Italian Northern League, received 2.6% and, in Alsace, the regionalist Alsace First, polled just 4.98%. Identity voters supported the FN in the second round, except in Alsace, where they seem to have switched to the Conservative UMP. ◄

Soziale
Gerechtigkeit
durchsetzen
NPD

Nazi "politician" and Bandidos rocker Sascha Rossmüller

GERMANY Nazis sign up with biker gangs

From Michael Klein for Antifa-Net in Hanover

AN UPSURGE IN violent clashes between the Hells Angels and the Bandidos, including shootouts, knifings and physical clashes, have led to calls from sections of the police for a federal ban on the notorious biker gangs.

The gangs are also attracting far-right extremists. Peter Borchert, the former head of the Schleswig-Holstein branch of the nazi National Democratic Party (NPD), has enlisted in the Bandidos. Borchert is well known for his brutality. He spent several years in prison for violence and attacked a member of the Hells Angels with a knife in 2008.

Alexander H, who has had close links with Combat 18 circles, and Nils H, another nazi from Kiel, have also strengthened their relations with the Bandidos. Earlier this year Nils H founded the MC Contras group to support the Bandidos.

In the small town of Anklam in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, the local Bandidos president is a right-wing extremist and the gang's premises in Mannheim has hosted White Power concerts.

Probably, the most prominent nazi member of the Bandidos is Sascha Rossmüller, the NPD's deputy leader in Bavaria, who has a staff job with the NPD's parliamentary group in Saxony.

A picture on the Bandidos website shows Rossmüller with another rocker, his left hand forming a pistol. Leading NPD activists defend Rossmüller, arguing that being a member of the Bandidos is, like joining a football club, a personal decision.

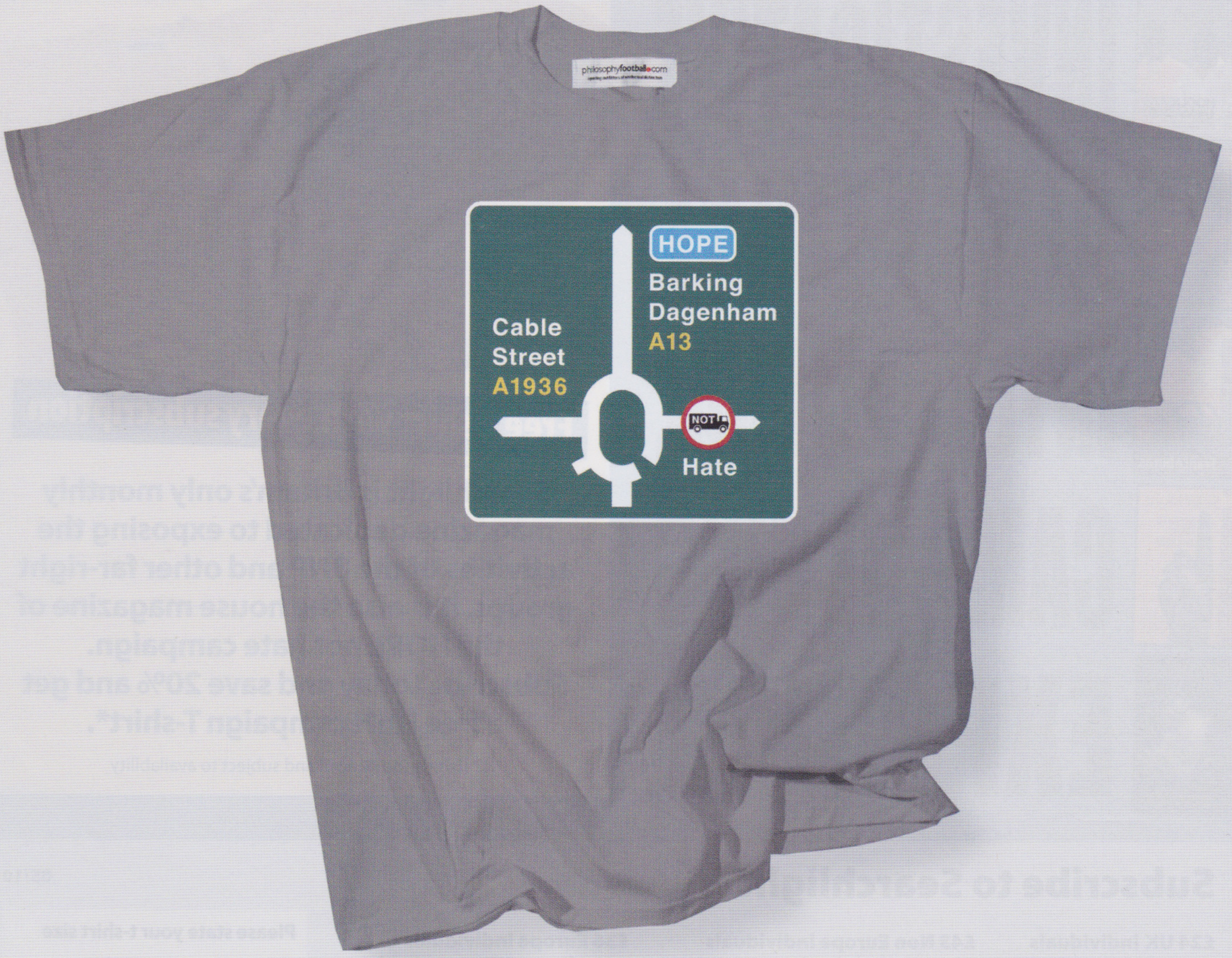
In the small town of Gägelow, in Mecklenburg, the bikers' club Schwarze Schar MC bought premises which, it turned out, also belong to a nazi who manages the so-called Werewolf Shop in nearby Wismar. On its website, the name Schwarze Schar MC is explained by reference to the German volunteers who fought against Napoleon in the early 19th century. Conditions for becoming a full member are a bike of at least 800cc and a commitment to one's "German origin".

The Hells Angels have shown up in Neumünster several dozen strong with big bikes in front of the infamous nazi watering hole Club 88 – to which Borchert is closely connected.

One leading member of the Hells Angels in Hannover is the vicious thug and football lout Markus Warnecke, who took part in the savage beating of the French policemen David Nivel in Lens during the 1998 World Cup. With the involvement of people like Warnecke, it is hardly surprising that a Hells Angels premises near Bremen has also been used for a White Power concert.

Until now, the state authorities have not conceded a high level of politicisation in the rocker gangs but, warns expert Andreas Speit, this could change if the developments in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern are repeated elsewhere. ◄

Road Blocked


philosophyfootball.com
HOPE
Barking
Dagenham
A13
Cable
Street
A1936
NOT
Hate

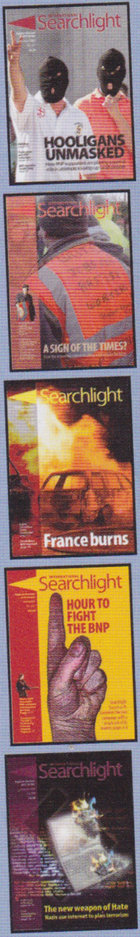
The A13 starts in London's East End, just round the corner from Cable Street, where the Blackshirts were stopped in 1936. Travelling east to Southend, this trunk road to the sea passes via Barking, and through Dagenham, where a new generation of anti-fascists are campaigning to stop Griffin and his BNP securing any kind of electoral success in May.

Wherever you are, wear the shirt, make the connections, spread the message **No Pasaran**, on the A13 and anywhere else.

The A13 shirt helps raise funds for the **Hope not Hate** campaign.
Available from **www.philosophyfootball.com**

philosophy**football**●com
sporting outfitters of intellectual distinction

Searchlight


Searchlight
HOOLIGANS UNMASKED
Searchlight
A SIGN OF THE TIMES?
Searchlight
France burns
Searchlight
HOUR TO FIGHT THE BNP
Searchlight
The new weapon of Hate

INVESTIGATIVE
ANALYTICAL
INTERNATIONAL
CAMPAIGNING
EXPOSING

HOPE
NOT HATE
2010
HOPE
NOT HATE
2010

Free t-shirt with every subscription

Searchlight is Britain's only monthly magazine dedicated to exposing the activities of the BNP and other far-right groups. It is also the house magazine of the HOPE not hate campaign. Subscribe today and save 20% and get a free HnH campaign T-shirt*.

* Offer ends 30 April and subject to availability

Subscribe to Searchlight

05/10

£24 UK individuals
£18 UK concessions*
£43 Non Europe individuals
£32 UK organisations
£36 Europe individuals
£48 All non-UK organisations

Please state your t-shirt size

☐ Small ☐ Med ☐ Large

Please start my subscription with the next issue (cheques made payable to Searchlight)

Name

Address

Postcode

Amount £

Or pay by standing order
Please debit my account with the sum of £ ____________ immediately and annually thereafter until cancelled by me in writing.

Your bank name & address

Account No Sort Code

Signature Date

Pay Searchlight Magazine Ltd (Account No 11110608, Sort Code 40-17-45, HSBC, 99 High Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1EQ)

PLEASE RETURN TO: SEARCHLIGHT, PO Box 1576, Ilford IG5 0NG.*Unemployed, OAPs, students. Please send proof.
Searchlight subscriptions are 100% data-secure, we never give our subscription list to any outside party.

ISSN 0262-4591
05
9 770262 459090

HOPE
NOT HATE

Photos: Kelly Haddow

Had a good day yesterday leaflet
well organised and lots of enthu
having more energy then me. P
comrade who I had not seen for
a curry by Jon Cruddas! What

Myself and the girls from Tho
Dagenham today, nice weathe
nice food … outstanding turn
hopefully!! Well done Searchli
organisation!

I managed to do two walks t
to get back to north Essex. H
performance and lunch but w
three hours driving. One ver
apathy today. Very well orga
involved in organising and a
well tonight.

What a fabulous day's work.
by people who all feel the sam
I advise you all to go to the H
and look for your nearest acti

Such a good day today, amaz
out in force!

That was a fantastic few ho
of the newsletter on the Nor
down well!

What a day. I cannot begin t
now. This is how you beat fa
work, proper work. I feel l
now.

For so long I've felt li
but didn't really kn
like I've been empo
hundreds of antif
I was also quite
people being poli
towards each othe
food. Just those litt
everything so speci
drains the finances,
not even for the excel

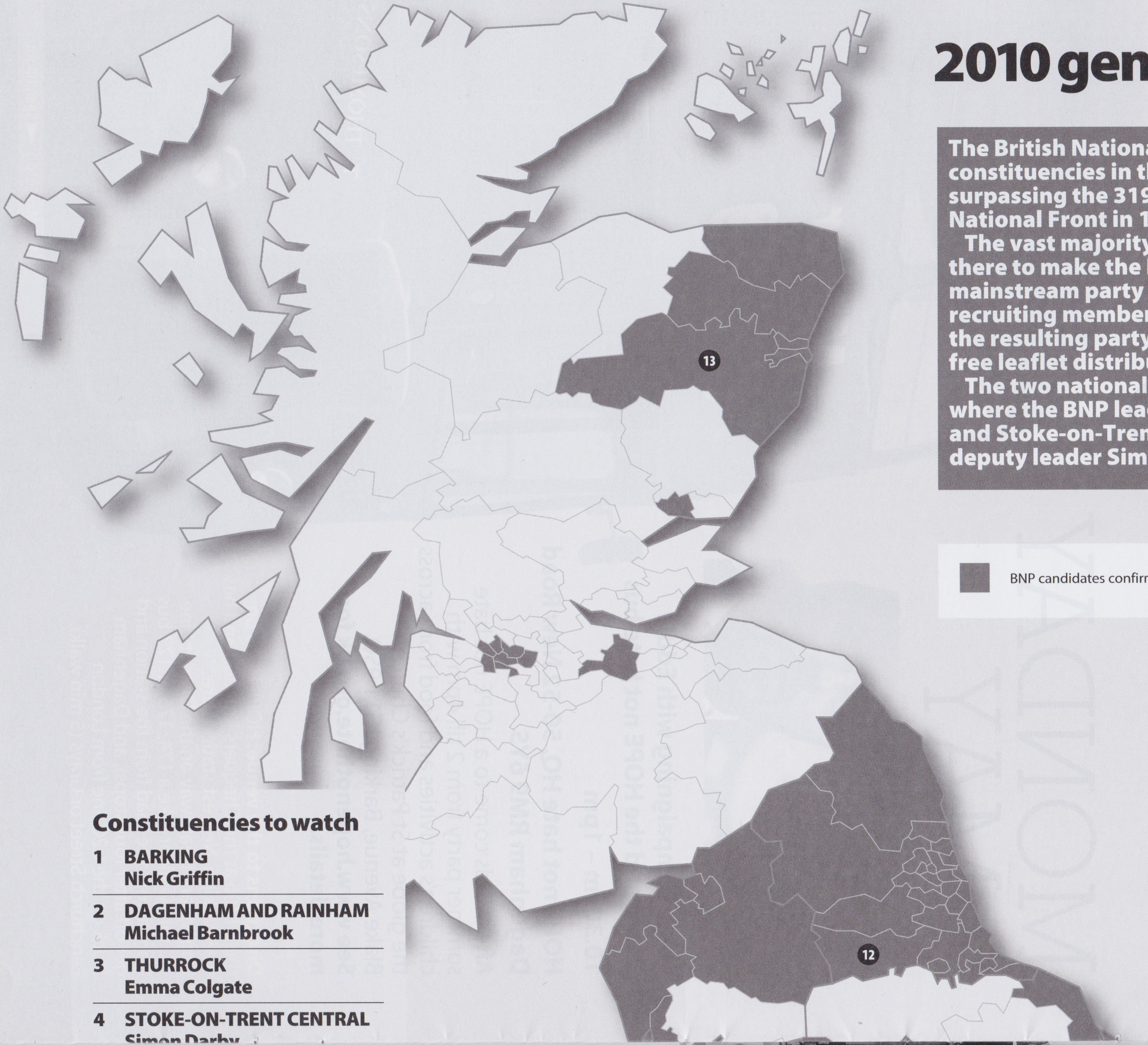
Great success today –
the team. **Arpita**
Unites, Chair Lo

2010 general election

The British National Party is contesting 338 constituencies in the general election, surpassing the 319 candidates fielded by the National Front in 1979.

The vast majority will be paper candidates, there to make the BNP look like a serious mainstream party and in the hope of recruiting members and attract funding from the resulting party political broadcasts and free leaflet distribution by the Royal Mail.

The two national priorities are Barking, where the BNP leader Nick Griffin is standing, and Stoke-on-Trent Central, contested by the deputy leader Simon Darby.



▨ BNP candidates confirmed

Constituencies to watch

1 **BARKING**
Nick Griffin

2 **DAGENHAM AND RAINHAM**
Michael Barnbrook

3 **THURROCK**
Emma Colgate

4 **STOKE-ON-TRENT CENTRAL**
Simon Darby

Simon Darby

5 **STOKE-ON-TRENT SOUTH**
Michael Coleman

6 **AMBER VALLEY**
Michael Clarke

7 **MORLEY AND OUTWOOD**
Chris Beverley

8 **BARNSLEY CENTRAL**
Ian Sutton

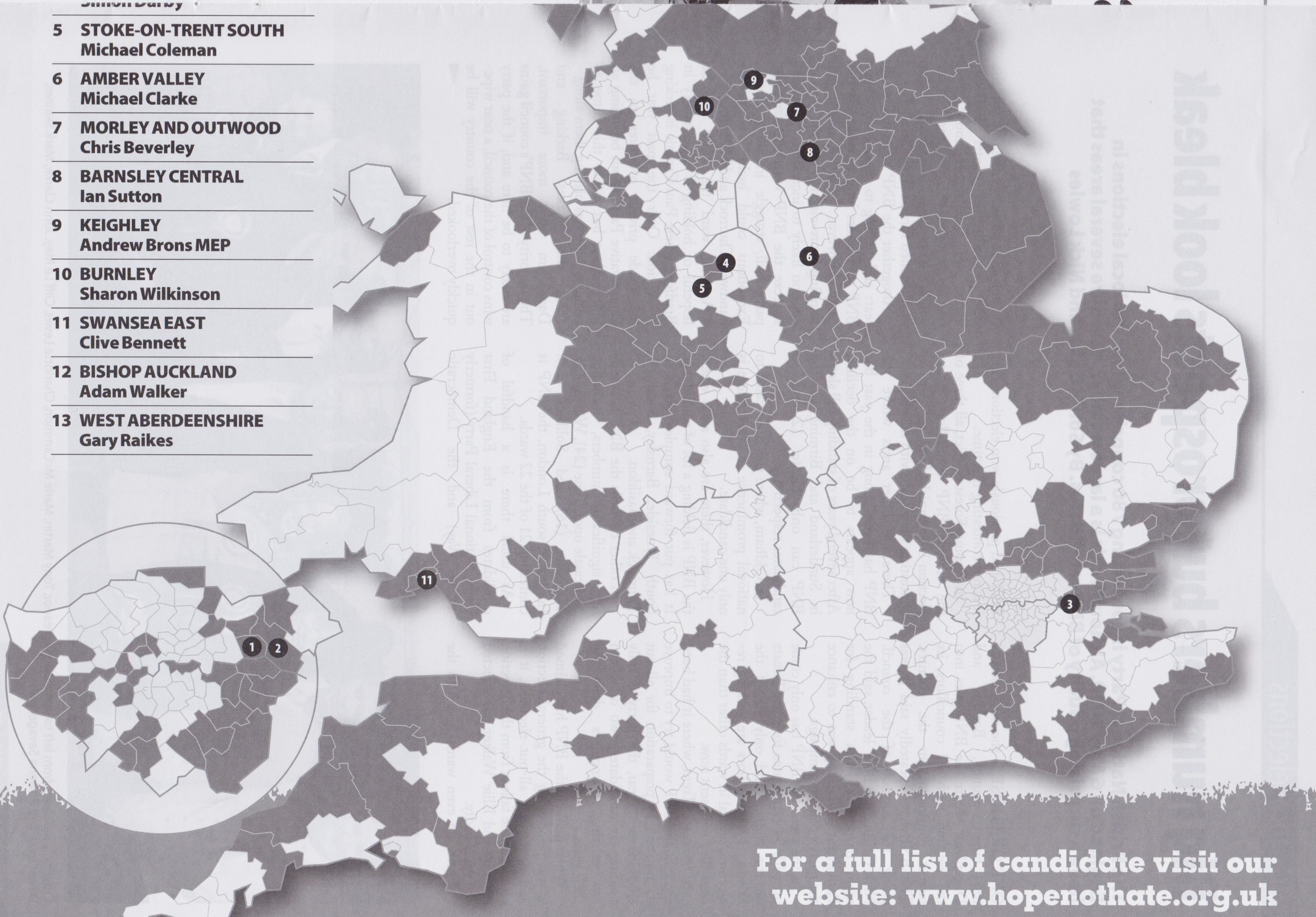
9 **KEIGHLEY**
Andrew Brons MEP

10 **BURNLEY**
Sharon Wilkinson

11 **SWANSEA EAST**
Clive Bennett

12 **BISHOP AUCKLAND**
Adam Walker

13 **WEST ABERDEENSHIRE**
Gary Raikes



For a full list of candidate visit our website: www.hopenothate.org.uk